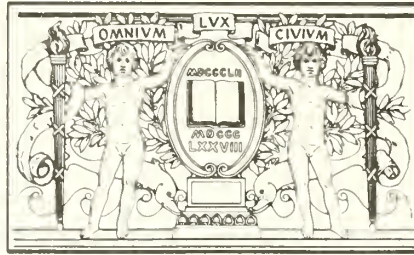


*Barbara Meil Hobson  
and  
Paul M. Wright*

# *Boston, A State of Mind: An Exhibition Record*

Photographs by Gordon Lewis





BOSTON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



*Boston, A State of Mind:  
An Exhibition Record*

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# *Boston, A State of Mind: An Exhibition Record*

*Barbara Meil Hobson  
and  
Paul M. Wright*

Photographs by Gordon Lewis

Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, 1977

*for Barbara Wescott and  
Judi, Paul-David, and Joshua Wright*



Designed by Richard Zonghi

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# Foreword

Boston has long and justly been famous for its literary culture, and it seemed only right and fitting that this culture be commemorated by an exhibit mounted in the first public library in a major city in America.

The exhibit opened in April, 1975, with the reading of a specially commissioned bicentennial poem by Archibald MacLeish, "Night Watch in the City of Boston," and was in place until December, 1976, the end of the official bicentennial period. This MacLeish reading marked the first program in the monthly Literary Boston Readings which brought to the lecture platform distinguished literary figures.

The exhibit was viewed by countless numbers of patrons and visitors during this period and it is important that this permanent record be created. The literary Boston exhibit was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), administered through Boston 200, the city's bicentennial agency. The Library acknowledges the support of the Endowment and the Task Force on Literature.

February 1977

Philip J. McNiff  
Director and Librarian



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[https://archive.org/details/bostonstateofmin00hobs\\_0](https://archive.org/details/bostonstateofmin00hobs_0)

# Preface

In 1876 the fervor of the Centennial touched every citizen. Because of his position as director of the Boston Public Library, Justin Winsor was in a unique position to tap this enthusiasm, to enrich the Library's historical archives. He gathered any documents connected with the rise of the nation; materials that seemed more ephemeral he put into scrapbooks; he asked authors to deposit all writings on the Centennial in the Library's collection. Beyond adding to the treasures of the Library, Winsor, whose main concern was always attracting readers, was interested in making these materials accessible to the public. In our Bicentennial year, the same impulse to discover our past and cultural identity generated historical research, exhibits, television programming, and literary works. *Boston, A State of Mind* which drew much upon Winsor's resources was also infused with his spirit. Its authors feel that this book has value as a record of the 1976 exhibit, but more important, it is a means of sharing with the public materials we found in Boston's cultural institutions that document 300 years of cultural and social exchange in one community.

This is not a traditional literary history for it is less concerned with great literary works or famous authors than with the exploration of what was being written about, read, and debated in a city rich in literary culture and historical tradition. We have attempted to work from the broadest definition of culture: the range of artifacts to which we refer includes popular fiction, children's books, reform propaganda, religious tracts, women's journals, as well as belles-lettres.

By sampling the works published over a 300-year period, it is possible to follow the interplay of values, new technologies, and cultural expressions in the complex network of writer, editor, printer, publisher, librarian, bookseller, and reader. In the publishing industry alone, one can see the effects of technological advances in the 1830's and 40's on the evolution of popular forms and on the subsequent debate over censorship. The attempt to monitor public taste and moral values becomes a crucial issue taken up by leaders of cultural institutions and local governments in the early nineteenth century and continues so today.

When we speak of literary Boston, moreover, we are referring to a sphere of influence that extends far outside the geographical limits of one city. As the cultural hub of New England, Boston provided forums—lyceums, literary clubs, magazines, publishing houses—for new authors and avant-garde literary movements from the towns

and cities in its orbit. Nationally, the city represented a cultural mecca for many like William Dean Howells, who left a provincial Ohio town to breathe the same air as the literary giants. Once here, he found himself, beyond his wildest dreams, eating at the tables of unapproachables like Holmes and Lowell, publishing their works, and receiving their encouragement. Some of the same aura, we feel, adheres to Boston even to our own day.

Although this is not an encyclopedia or even a survey in the usual sense, it is a gathering—a representative selection—of some of the rich variety of material we found when we assayed the collections of the Boston Public Library. We drew not only on fine and rare items (the famous Bay Psalm Book, for instance), but also on the clippings and scrapbooks of a virtually unknown nineteenth-century archivist, Abram Cutter, who saved such ephemera as theatre tickets and playbills. In many cases the choice of one item over another was dictated by its better visual impact—in a visual exhibit that seemed to be a valid criterion. In some cases comprehensiveness decreed that a richer field, say the mid-nineteenth century, be less represented than it might have been so that sparser pickings, say the mid-twentieth century, might be included. Serendipity had something to do with what is here as did constraints of time and budget. We tried to evoke the spirit of Boston and to be fair to the city's tradition—if someone's favorite author or book is left out, someone else's we are confident is included.

This book is divided into two parts reflecting the two Literary Boston Bicentennial exhibits which generated it. The first section "Boston, A State of Mind: A 300-Year Dialogue Between Author and Audience" is both chronological and thematic in structure, beginning with the Puritan "errand into the wilderness" of the seventeenth century and concluding with wanderings in the urban wilderness of the early twentieth century. The second section, "Contrasts: The Past, the Present, and Six Boston Writers," pairs three historical personalities with three of our contemporaries and attempts to penetrate the dialectic of continuity and change in the Boston tradition.

In addition to Justin Winsor's four-volume *Memorial History of Boston* (Boston, 1880), we offer the following suggestions for the reader who wishes further to pursue the topics briefly introduced in this book. (Paperback editions of all are available.) One could begin most profitably with Howard Mumford and Bessie Zaban Jones's



fine collection, *The Many Voices of Boston: A Historical Anthology, 1630-1975* (Boston, 1975). A good brief and graceful account of the received opinion about Boston's political and social history is Thomas H. O'Connor's *Bibles, Brahmins, and Bosses: A Short History of Boston* (Boston, 1976). For the physical growth of the city the classic source is Walter Muir Whitehill's *Boston: A Topographical History*, second edition enlarged (Cambridge, 1968). Still useful for their anecdotal richness are Van Wyck Brooks's two studies of nineteenth-century Boston literary life: *The Flowering of New England* and *New England: Indian Summer* (New York, 1936 and 1940). F. O. Matthiessen's *American Renaissance: Art and Expression in the Age of Emerson and Whitman* (New York, 1941) remains the finest synthetic study of the high period of nineteenth-century—essentially Boston-centered—culture. A useful corrective critique of pious verities has been offered by Martin Green in *The Problem of Boston: Some Readings in Cultural History* (New York, 1966). Cleanth Brooks, R. W. B. Lewis, and Robert Penn Warren have produced a masterly two-volume, historical anthology, *American Literature: The Makers and the Making* (New York, 1973) which helps put the Boston achievement in a larger American context. Students driven to further voyages on strange seas of thought should turn to the series of annotated reading lists prepared by the "Boston: An Urban Community" programs at the Boston Public Library: each booklet offers informed historical guidance into subjects as varied as architecture, family life, geography, and immigration as they relate to the Boston area.

We wish to thank those who helped us in various ways with the original exhibits and this book. Literally dozens of our colleagues at Boston University, the Boston Public Library, and Boston 200 were helpful as were all the members of the Task Force on Literature listed elsewhere in this book. We would like to thank especially David D. Hall of the American Studies Program at Boston University for getting us involved with the project in the first place and advising us all along the way. Cecelia Tichi of Boston University was kind enough to read and annotate an early draft of this material. Martin Green encouraged publication and offered an example of clarity in his own work. Philip Driscoll, Assistant to the Director, early in the venture introduced us to the Boston Public Library staff. Y. T. Feng, Chief of the Research Division, smoothed the way for publication of

the book and helped with innumerable small kindnesses. Francis X. Moloney, Assistant Director, proofread final drafts of the exhibition copy and the book manuscript, drawing on his vast knowledge of details in Boston history. That there is any book at all is due to the interest and support of the Boston Public Library's Director, Philip J. McNiff.

Eugene Zepp and Kitty Nicholson of the Library's Print Department and Robert Johansen and Ellen Oldham of the Rare Book Room were interested and helpful as we drew out and photographed the items in their care. Without Frank Bruno's help, we would never have located many of the unusual journals and portrait collections. Ernie Clark of the Book Delivery Section wrestled huge folios out of the stacks for us. Charles Longley brought some key newspapers to our attention. Ruth Hayes of the Children's Room offered access to some interesting juvenile books. Jan Seidler of Boston 200 offered help at critical moments in bureaucratic politics. Laurie Crumpacker and Lynn Weiner shared items from their own collections with us. Eugenia Kaledin, author of a fine walking tour of literary Boston, shared information all along. Ruth Whitman was kind enough to review the section on Anne Sexton and offer advice on that difficult poet's work. Barbara Swan graciously lent some of her extraordinary drawings of Anne Sexton. Richard J. S. Gutman, who was concurrently working on a slide-tape show on a similar theme, shared his picture sources, information, and enthusiasm with us. Archie Hobson cast a cold critical eye throughout on our prose, as did Judi Wright near the end of the project. Michael McDonough helped transform our raw material into finished exhibits.

We want to thank Gordon Lewis for taking time from a busy schedule to print the photographs for this book. Elizabeth Wade White and Walter Harding graciously supplied key photographs. Val Hymen of United South End Settlements gave us access to the photographic collection of South End House. Susan Martin, Diana Kleiner, and Julie Tai typed successive drafts of this material with good humor and attention to style, and we are grateful. Richard Zonghi deserves special credit for the care with which he did the design and layout of this book—a good deal of its impact is a result of his skill. Thanks are due to William Murphy, the compositor, and to Thomas and Duncan Todd and the staff of Thomas Todd Company, Printers, for their concern and careful work.

Need we add that any errors of commission or omission are ours

alone . We hope that this book communicates some of our enthusiasm for the subject, and we hope that readers will want to investigate further on their own the infinite variety of Boston.

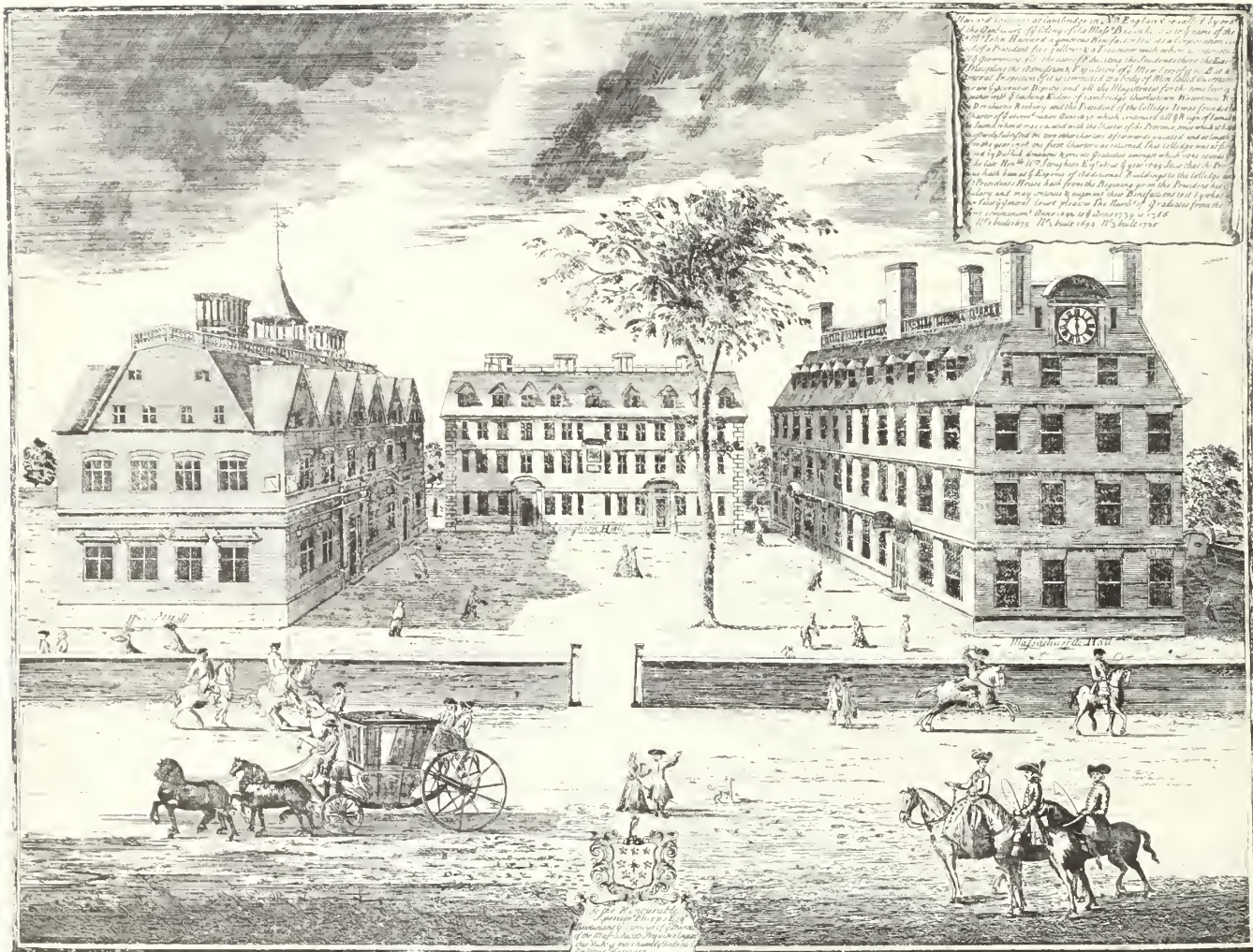
February 1977

Barbara Hobson  
Paul Wright



*Boston, A State of Mind:  
A 300-Year Dialogue Between  
Author and Audience*





*A View of the Colleges in Cambridge in New England*



Educational Beginnings

Boston's Puritan founders felt the need for establishing educational institutions from the beginning. Their theology rested on individual responsibility and personal access to God by reading the word of God, the Bible. As early as 1642 Massachusetts Bay passed an act imposing fines for the neglect of education, and in 1647 the famous "Ould Deluder Satan Law" was enacted compelling establishment of schools:

*It being one cheife piet[object] of that ould deluder, Satan, to keepe men from the knowledge of the Scriptures, as in former times by keeping them in an unknown tongue, so in these latter times by pswading from the use of tongues, that so at least the true sence & meaning of the originall might be clouded by false glosses of saint seeming deceivers, that learning may not be buried in the grave of our fathers in the church & commonwealth, the Lord assisting our endeavors,— It is therefore ordered, that every towneship in this jurisdiction, after the Lord hath increased them to the number of 50 householders, shall then forthwith appoint one within their towne to teach all such children as shall resort to him to write & reade.*

- 1. Harvard was established in 1636 by an act of the Massachusetts General Court, to train clergy in the country of their birth. John Harvard's bequest in 1638 left the young college his library, half his fortune, and his name.
- 2. In a country where books were scarce, the destruction of five thousand books (1764) was a great loss to the college and community.

An Account of the Fire at Harvard-College, in Cambridge; with the Loss sustained thereby.

CAMBRIDGE, JAN. 25. 1764.

LAST night HARVARD COLLEGE, suffered the most ruinous loss it ever met with since its foundation. In the middle of a very tempestuous night, a fierce cold storm of snow attended with high wind, we were awaked by the alarm of fire. Harvard Hall, the only one of our ancient buildings which still remained, and the repository of our most valuable treasures, the public LIBRARY and Philosophical APPARATUS, was seen in flames. As it was a time of vacation, in which the students were all dispersed, not a single person was left in any of the College, except two or three in that part of Massachusetts most distant from Harvard, where the fire could not be perceived till the whole surrounding air began to be illuminated by it. When it was discovered from the town, it had risen to a degree of violence that defied all opposition. It is conjectured to have begun in a beam under the hearth in the library, where a fire had been kept for the use of the General Court, now residing and sitting here, by reason of the Small-Pox at Boston: from thence it burst out into the library. The books easily formed to the fury of the flame, which with a rapid and irresistible progress made its way into the Apparatus Chamber, and spread thro' the whole building. In a very short time, this venerable Monument of the Piety of our Ancestors was reduced into a heap of ruins. The other Colleges, Synagogue Hall and Massachusetts Hall, were in the utmost hazard of sharing the same fate. The wind driving the flaming coinders directly upon their roofs, they blazed out several different fires; but for could they have been saved by all the help the Town could afford, had it not been for the assistance of the Gentlemen of the General Court, among whom his Excellency the Governor was very active, who, notwithstanding the extreme rigour of the season, exerted themselves in supplying the town Engine with water, which they were obliged to fetch at last from a distance, two of the College pumps being then rendered useless. Even the new and beautiful Halls, though it was on the windward side, hardly escaped. It stood for near to Harvard, that the flames actually seized upon it, if they had not been immediately suppressed, must have carried it.

But by the Blessing of God on the vigorous efforts of the assistants, the ruin was confined to Harvard Hall; and there, besides the destruction of the private property of those who had chambers in it, the public loss was very great, perhaps, unparalleled. The library and the Apparatus, which for many years had been growing, and were now judged to be the best furnished in America, are annihilated. But to give the public a more distinct idea of the loss, we shall exhibit a summary view of the general contents of each, as far as we can, on a sudden, recollect them.

Of the LIBRARY.

IT contained—The Holy Scriptures in almost all languages, with the most valuable Expositions and Commentaries, ancient and modern.—The whole Library of the late learned Dr. Engelking, which at his death he bequeathed to this College, and contained the Targum, Talmud, Rabbinical Literature, and other valuable tracts relative to Jewish literature, which is unobtainable elsewhere.—The library of the late eminent Dr. Theophilus Gale—

—The library of Hall, 1 feet high, 10 feet long, and 10 feet deep, was valued at £1000.

—All the Fathers, Greek and Latin, in their best editions.—A great number of tracts in defence of revealed religion, wrote by the most masterly hands, in the last and present century.—Sermons of the most celebrated English divines, both of the established national church and protestant dissenters.—Tracts upon all the branches of polemic divinity.—The donation of the venerable Society for propagating the Gospel in foreign parts, consisting of a great many volumes of tracts against Popery, published in the Reign of Charles II. and James II. the Pious Lectures, and other the most esteemed English sermons.—A valuable collection of modern theological treatises, presented by the Right Rev. Dr. Sierlock, late Lord Bishop of London, the Rev. Dr. Hales, F. R. S. and Mr. Wilson of London.—A vast number of philosophical tracts, containing the rudiments of almost all languages, ancient and modern.—The Hebrew, Greek and Roman antiquities.—The Greek and Roman Classics, presented by the late excellent and charitable-spirited Bishop Berkeley, most of them the best editions.—A large Collection of History and biographical tracts, ancient and modern.—Dissertations on various Political subjects.—The Transactions of the Royal Society, Academy of Sciences in France, and Erudition Miscellanea cuncta, the works of Boyle and Newton, with a great variety of other mathematical and philosophical treatises.—A collection of the most approved Medical Authors, chiefly presented by Mr. James, of the Island of Jamaica, to which Dr. Mead and other Gentlemen made very considerable additions.—All Anatomical cuts and two complete Skeletons of different sizes. This collection would have been very serviceable to a Professor of Physic and Anatomy, when the revenues of the College should have been sufficient to furnish a gentleman in this character.—A few ancient and valuable Manuscripts in different languages.—A pair of excellent new Globes of the latest size, presented by Andrew Oliver, Jun. Esq.—A variety of Curiosities natural and artificial, both of American and foreign produce.—A sort of Greek types (such, as we had not yet a printing office, was deposited in the library) presented by our great benefactor the late worthy Thomas Hollis, Esq. of London; whose picture, as large as the life, and inscriptions for two Professors and ten Scholarships, perished in the flames.—Some of the most considerable acquisitions that had been made of late years to the library, came from other branches of the generous Family.

The library contained above five thousand volumes, all which were catalogued, except a few books in the hands of the members of the house; and two donations, one made by our late honorable Lieutenant Governor Dummer, to the value of £500 sterling, the other of 50 volumes, by the present worthy Thomas Hollis, Esq. F. R. S. of London, to whom we have been annually obliged for valuable additions to our late library. Which donations, being but lately received, had not the proper boxes prepared for them; and so escaped the general ruin.

As the library records are burnt, no doubt some valuable benefactions have been omitted in this account, which was drawn up only by memory.

Of the APPARATUS.

WHEN the late worthy Thomas Hollis, Esq. of London founded a Professorship of Mathematics and Philosophy in Harvard-College, he sent a fine Apparatus for Experimental Philosophy in its several Branches.

Under the head of Mechanics, there were instruments for experiments of lifting bodies, of the centre of gravity, and of centrifugal forces—the several mechanical powers, balances of different sorts, levers, pulleys, axes in perriction, wedges, compound engines, with curious models of each in brass.

In Hydrostatics, very nice balances, jets and bottles of various sizes fitted with brass caps, vessels for proving the grand hydrostatic paradox, siphons, glass models of pumps, hydrostatic balances, &c.

In Pneumatics, there was a number of different tubes for the Torricellian experiment, a large double-barrelled Air-pump, with a great variety of receivers of different sizes and shapes, syringes, reticulating and condensing, Barometer, Thermometer, with many other articles.

In Optics, there were several sets of mirrors, concave, convex, cylindric. Lenses of different foci; instruments for proving the fundamental law of refraction; Prisms, with the whole apparatus for the Newtonian theory of light and colors; the camera obscura, &c.

And a variety of instruments for miscellaneous purposes.

THE following articles were afterwards lent us by Mr. Thomas Hollis, Nephew to that generous Gentleman, viz. an Orrery, an armillary Sphere, and a box of Microscopes; all of exquisite workmanship.

For Astronomy, we had before been supplied with Telescopes of different lengths; one of 42 feet; and a brass Quadrant of a Quadrant, carrying a Telescope of a greater length; which formerly belonged to the celebrated Dr. Halley. We had also the most useful instruments for Dialling—and for Surveying, a brass level-screw, with plain sights and magnetic needle. All, a curious telescope, with a complete apparatus for taking the difference of level, lately presented by Christopher Huller, Esq.

Many very valuable additions have of late years been made to this apparatus by several generous benefactors, whom it would be ingratitude not to commemorate here, as no writings of their donations remain. We are under obligation to mention particularly, the late Sir Peter Warren, knight, Sir Henry Frankland, Bart. Hon. Jonathan Belcher, Esq. Lt. Governor of Nova Scotia, Thomas Hancock, Esq. James Bowdoin, Esq. Ezekiel Goldsmith, Esq. John Hancock, A. M. of Boston, and Mr. Gilbert Harrison of London, Merchant. From these Gentlemen we received fine reflecting Telescopes of different magnifying powers; and adapted to different observations; Microscopes of the several sorts now in use; Hadley's Quadrant fitted in a new manner; a nice Variation Compass, and Dipping needle, with instruments for the several magneical and electrical experiments—all new, and of excellent workmanship.—ALL DESTROYED!

Cambridge, Jan. 26. 1764. As the General Assembly have this day cheerfully and unanimously voted to rebuild Harvard Hall, it is our wishes to hope, that the LIBRARY and APPARATUS will also be repaired to the private munificence, which we so well see in America, have acquired for New-England, and know the importance of literature to the Church and State.

PRINTED BY R. AND S. DEXTER.

# The Grammarians' Funeral.

O R.

An ELEGY compos'd upon the Death of Mr. John Woodmaney,  
formerly a School-Master in Boston: But now Published upon  
the DEATH of the Venerable

## Mr. Ezekiel Chevers,

The late and famous School-Master of Boston in New-England; Who Departed this Life the  
Twenty first of August 1708. Early in the Morning. In the Ninety-fourth Year of his Age.

Eight Parts of Speech this Day wear Mourning Gowns:  
And Declin'd Verbs, Pronouns, Participles, Nouns.  
In Ladies: orch they stand to do their functions.  
With Preposition; but the most affection  
Was still observed in the Interjection.  
The Substantive seeming the lumb'd best,  
Would set an hand to bear him to his Rest.  
The Adjective with very grief did say,  
Hold me by strength, or I shall faint away.  
The Clouds of Tears did over-cast their faces,  
Yea all were in most lamentable Cases.  
The five Declensions did the Work decline,  
And Told the Pronoun Tu, The work is thine:  
But in this case those have no call to go  
That want the Vocative, and can't say O!  
The Pronouns said that if the Nouns were there,  
There was no need of them, they might them spare:  
But for the sake of Emphasis they would,  
In their Discretion do what ere they could.  
Great honour was confer'd on Conjunctions,  
They were to follow next to the Relations.  
And did love him best, and Dece might  
Alledge he was his Glory and Delight.  
But Lego said by me he got his skill,  
And therefore next the Hicse I follow will.  
And so said little, hearing them so hot,  
Yet knew by him much Learning he had got.  
O Verbs the Active were, Or Passive sate,  
Sum to be Nester could not well endure:  
But this was common to them all to Moan  
Their load of grief they could not soon Depose.  
A doleful Day for Verbs, they look so moody,  
They drove Spectators to a Mournful Study.  
The Verbs irregular, 'twas thought by some,  
Would break no rule, if they were pleas'd to come.  
Gaudes could not be found; fearing disgrace  
He had with-drawn, sent Marce in his Place.  
Passum did to the utmost he was able,  
And bore as Stout as if he'd been A Table.

Volo was willing, Nolo some-what stout,  
But Molo rather chose, not to stand out.  
Possum and Volo wul'd all might afford  
Their help, but had not an Imperative Word.  
Ede from Service would by no means Swerve,  
Rather than fail, he thought the Cakes to Serve.  
Fis was taken in a fit, and said,  
By him a Mourful P O E M should be made.  
Fero was willing for to bear a part,  
Altho' he did it with an aking heart.  
Fero excus'd, with grief he was to Torn,  
He could not bear, he needed to be born.  
Such Nouns and Verbs as we defective find,  
No Gram-~~mar~~ Rules did their attendance bind.  
They were excepted, and exempted hence,  
But Sapient, all did blame for negligence.  
Verbs Offspring, Participles hand-in-hand,  
Follow, and by the same diction stand:  
The rest Promiscuously did etoud and cumber,  
Such Multitudes of each, they wanted Number.  
Next to the Corps to make th' attendance even,  
Jove, Mercury, Apollo came from heaven.  
And Virgil, Cato, gods, men, Rivers, Winds,  
With Elegies, Tears, Sighs, came in their kinds.  
Ovid from Pontus halt's Apparell'd thus,  
In Exile-woods bringing De Tristibus:  
And Homer sure had been among the Rour,  
But that the Stories say his Eyes were out.  
Queens, Cities, Countreies, Islands, Come  
All Trees, Birds, Fishes, and each Word in U'm.  
What Syntax here can you expect to find?  
Where each one bears such discomposed mind.  
Figures of Diction and Construction,  
Do little: Yet stand sadly looking on.  
That such a Tram may in their motion chord,  
Prosodia gives the measure Word for Word.

Sic Massus Cecinit,

Benj. Tomplon.

# A Short INTRODUCTION TO THE Latin Tongue.

## For the Use of the Lower Forms in the Latin School.

Being the Accidence Abbridg'd and  
Compiled in that most easy and  
accurate Method, wherein the Fa-  
mous Mr. Ezekiel Cheever taught;  
and which he found the most ad-  
vantageous by Seventy years ex-  
perience.

The Third Edition, Revised & Corrected  
by the Author.  
To which are added a Catalogue of  
Irregular Nouns and of Verbs  
dispos'd Alphabetically.

BOSTON in N. E  
Printed by B. Green, for Benj. Elliot, at  
his Shop in King Street. 1724.

3. The Boston Public Latin School was founded in 1635 to educate young men for entrance to the projected college. Ezekiel Cheever (1615-1708) was master of the Latin School for 38 years. Cotton Mather, his most famous pupil, called him the "civilizer of his age."
4. An edition of Cheever's famous "Latin Accidence."
5. In New England and the neighboring colonies the *Primer* became an institution, occupying the same shelf as the family Bible. It was used in Boston schools as late as 1806. Dozens of editions were published, and more than three million copies, it is estimated, were sold.
6. The famous moralizing alphabet of the *New England Primer*.

THE  
NEW-ENGLAND  
PRIMER

ENLARGED:

Or, an easy and pleasant  
Guide to the Art of Reading.  
Adorn'd with Cuts.

*To which are added,*  
The ASSEMBLY of DIVINES  
and Mr. COTTON'S  
CATECHISMS.

BOSTON:

Printed by T. and J. FLEET. at the  
*Bible & Heart* in Cornhill.

THE  
NEW ENGLAND  
PRIMER;

OR,

AN EASY AND PLEASANT GUIDE

TO

THE ART OF READING.

~~~~~  
Adorned with Cuts.  
~~~~~


TO WHICH IS ADDED


THE CATECHISM.


MASSACHUSETTS SABBATH SCHOOL SOCIETY,


Depository No. 13 Cornhill, Boston.


1843.


A  In *Adam's Fall*  
We sinned all.

B  Thy Life to mend,  
This *Book* attend.

C  The *Cat* doth play,  
And after slay.

D  A *Dog* will bite  
A Thief at Night.

E  An *Eagle's* Flight  
Is out of Sight.

F  The idle *Fool*  
Is whipt at School.

G  As runs the *Glass*,  
Man's Life doth pass.

H  My *Book* and *Heart*  
Shall never part.

J  *Job* feels the Rod,  
Yet blesses God.

K  Proud *Korah's* Troop,  
Was swallowed up.

L  The *Lion* bold  
The Lamb doth hold.

M  The *Moon* gives Light  
In Time of Night.



## Early Printing and Bestsellers

In accordance with their theological and social stress on the printed word, the Puritans soon brought to the new world the equipment necessary to produce their own books. Controlled by the colonial government, printing was at first associated with the educational center at the new college in Cambridge. It was not until 1674 that John Foster was licensed to print at the "Sign of the Dove" in Boston proper. Several books were widely distributed and went into many editions—becoming seventeenth-century "bestsellers." Often copies of early editions of these books do not survive, being literally read to pieces by going from hand to hand.



1

1. Stephen Daye, the indentured servant of Mistress Glover, the owner, began the first press in English America in 1638. The printing press itself was similar to those of previous centuries, and presses would not change structurally until the Industrial Revolution.
2. The famous Bay Psalm Book, the earliest extant product of the Stephen Daye press, appeared in 1640. Earlier Daye had printed a broadsheet freeman's oath and an almanac. The well-known Twenty-third Psalm as rendered into "English metre" by Thomas Weld, John Eliot, and Richard Mather begins:  
*The Lord to mee a shepheard is, want therefore shall not I.  
 Hee in the folds of tender-grasse, doth cause me down to lie:  
 To waters calme me gently leads. Restore my soule doth hee:  
 He doth in paths of righteousness: for his names sake lead mee.*
3. John Eliot, the Apostle to the Indians, tried to convert them. In 1663 his famous Indian Bible, a prodigious scholarly feat and a considerable printer's achievement, appeared in final form.
4. Edward Johnson's *Wonder-Working Providence* (1654). The early settlers' attempts to explain their mission to themselves were widely circulated.

THE  
**WHOLE**  
 BOOKE OF PSALMES  
*Faithfully*  
 TRANSLATED into ENGLISH  
*Metre.*

Whereunto is prefixed a discourse de-  
 claring not only the lawfulness, but also  
 the necessity of the heavenly Ordinance  
 of singing Scripture Psalmes in  
 the Churches of  
 God.

Coll. III.

*Let the word of God dwell plentifully in  
 you, in all wisdom, teaching and exhort-  
 ing one another in Psalmes, Hymnes, and  
 spirituall Songs, singing to the Lord with  
 grace in your hearts.*


James v.

*If any be afflicted, let him pray, and if  
 any be merry let him sing psalmes.*

Imprinted  
 1640

I 1628.


CHAP. I.



Wonder-working PROVIDENCE  
 OF  
 SIONS SAVIOUR.

Being a Relation of the first planting in *New England*,  
 in the Yeare, 1628.

CHAP. I.  
*The sad Condition of England, when this  
 People removed.*



When England began to decline in Religion,  
 like luke-warme *Laodicea*, and instead of  
 purging out Popery, a farther compliance  
 was sought not onely in vaine Idolatrous  
 Ceremonies, but also in prophaning the  
 Sabbath, and by Proclamation throughout  
 their Parish churches, exasperating lewd  
 and prophane persons to celebrate a Sab-  
 bath like the Heathen to *Venus, Bacchus* and *Ceres*; in so much that  
 the multitude of irreligious lascivious and pop sh affected per-  
 sons spred the whole land like *Grashoppers*, in this very time Christ  
 the glorious King of his Churches, raises an Army out of our  
*English* Nation, for freeing his people from their long servitude  
 under usurping Prelacy; and b. cause every corner of *England*  
 was filled with the fury of malignant adversaries, Christ creates  
 a *New England* to muster up the first of his Forces in; Whose  
 low condition, little number, and remoteness of place made  
 B these

MAMUSSE  
 WUNNEETUPANATAMWE  
**UP-BIBLUM GOD**  
 NANEEESWE  
**NUKKONE TESTAMENT**  
 KAH WONK  
**WUSKU TESTAMENT.**

Ne quoah'nnamuk nashpe Wutinnamob CHRIST  
 100 alowelit

JOHN ELIOT.

CAMBRIDGE:

Printeuopnaahpe Samuel Green kah Marmaduke John,  
 1663.

5. Michael Wigglesworth's *Day of Doom* first appeared in 1662. Graphic descriptions of Judgement Day stirred sinners to remorse:

*Wallowing in all kind of sin, vile  
wretches lay secure:*

*The best of men had scarcely then  
their Lamps kept in good ure.*

*Virgins unwise, who through disguise  
amongst the best were numbered,*

*Had clos'd their eyes; yea, and the wise  
through sloth and frailty slumbered.*

*For at midnight brake forth a Light,  
which turn'd the night to day,  
And speedily an hideous cry did all the  
world dismay.*

*Sinners awake, their hearts do ake,  
trembling their loynes surprizeth;  
Amaz'd with fear, by what they hear,  
each one of them ariseth.*

6. Mary Rowlandson's terrifying tale of her capture by Indians is still exciting reading. So-called captivity narratives were to form a distinct sub-genre of American literature well into the nineteenth century. The persistent identification of the Indians with the agents of Satan is evident in Rowlandson's choice of words:

*It is a solemn sight to see so many  
Christians lying in their blood, some  
here and some there, like a company of  
Sheep torn by Wolves, All of them  
stript naked by a company of hell-  
hounds, roaring, singing, ranting and  
insulting, as if they would have torn  
our very hearts out; yet the Lord by  
His Almighty power preserved a  
number of us from death, for there  
were twenty-four of us taken alive and  
carried captive.*

**The day of Doom!**  
OR, A  
**DESCRIPTION**  
Of the Great and Last  
**Judgment.**  
WITH  
A SHORT DISCOURSE  
ABOUT  
**ETERNITY**

Ecclef. 12. 14.

*For God shall bring every work into Judgment,  
with every secret thing, whether it be good,  
or whether it be evil.*

**L O N D O N,**  
Printed by W. G. for John Sims, at the Kings-  
Head at Sweetings Alley-end in Cornhill,  
next House to the Royal-Exchange, 1673.

A TRUE  
**HISTORY**  
OF THE  
**Captivity & Restoration**

OF  
Mrs. **MARY ROWLANDSON,**  
A Minister's Wife in *New-England*.

Wherein is set forth, The Cruel and Inhumane  
Usage she underwent amongst the *Heathens*, for  
Eleven Weeks time: And her Deliverance from  
them.

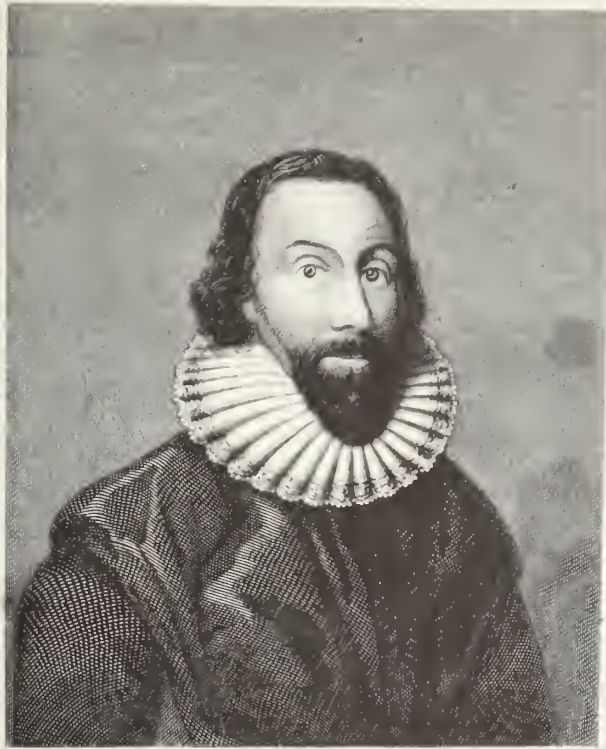
*Written by her own Hand, for her Private Use: And now made  
Publick at the earnest Desire of some Friends, for the Benefit  
of the Afflicted.*

Whereunto is annexed,  
A Sermon of the Possibility of God's Forsaking a Peo-  
ple that have been near and dear to him.

Preached by Mr. Joseph Rowlandson, Husband to the said Mrs. Rowlandson:  
It being his Last Sermon.

Printed first at *New-England*: And Re-printed at *London*, and sold  
by Joseph Poole, at the Blue Bowl in the Long-Walk, by Christ's-  
Church Hospital. 1682.





JOHN WINTHROP  
FIRST GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS.

THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
NEW ENGLAND

FROM  
1630 TO 1649.

BY JOHN WINTHROP, ESQ.  
FIRST GOVERNOR OF THE COLONY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

FROM  
HIS ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS.

WITH NOTES

TO ILLUSTRATE

THE CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL CONCERNS, THE GEOGRAPHY, SETTLEMENT AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE COUNTRY, AND THE LIVES AND MANNERS OF THE PRINCIPAL PLANTERS.

BY JAMES SAVAGE,  
MEMBER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. I.

Sæpe audiui, Q. Mæcenas, P. Scipionem, præterea civitatis nostræ præclaros viros, solitos ita dicere, cum majorum imagines intuerentur, vehementissime sibi animum ad virtutem accendi.  
Sallust, Bell. Jugurth. c. iv.

Boston:

PRINTED BY PHELPS AND FARNHAM,

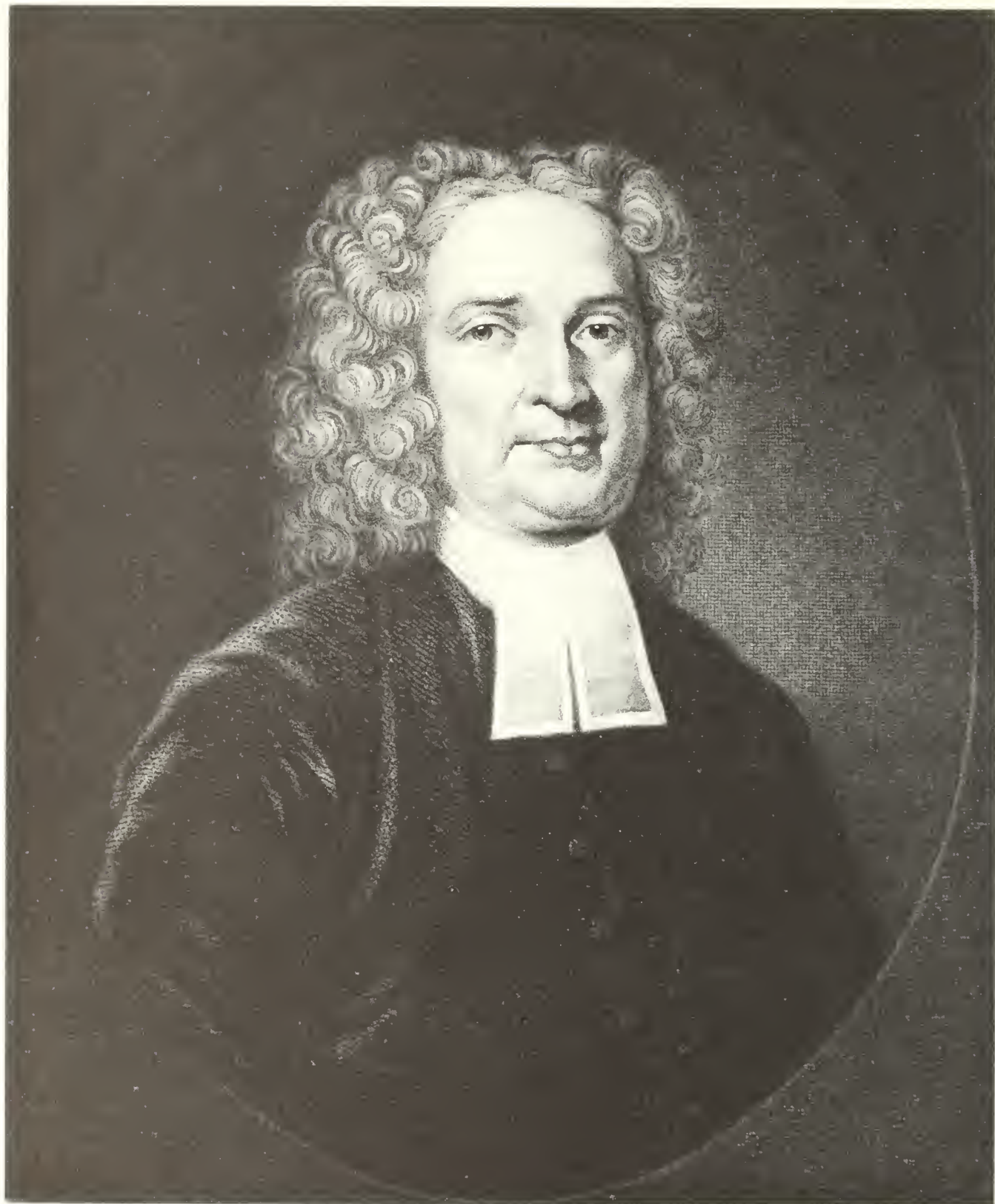
No. 5 Cornhill Street.

1825.

## A City on a Hill

1. John Winthrop (1588-1649) was governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony during most of its formative years, from 1629 until his death. He is remembered for his powerful sermon, "A Model of Christian Charity," aboard the *Arbella* as the Puritans girded themselves to face the unknown. He exhorted his followers to knit themselves into a sharing community: *We must entertain each other in*

*brotherly affection; we must be willing to abridge ourselves of our superfluities, for the supply of others' necessities; we must uphold a familiar commerce together in all meekness, gentleness, patience, and liberality. We must delight in each other, make others' conditions our own, rejoice together, mourn together, labor and suffer together: always having before our eyes our commission and community in the work, our community as members of the same body.*



2. John Cotton (1584-1652) arrived at Boston, Massachusetts, in 1633 as an established Puritan clergyman, having served as vicar of St. Botolph's church in Boston, England.
3. Roger Williams (1603-1683), well known to us as the founder of Rhode Island, engaged in a bitter pamphlet war with John Cotton over the true nature of religion and liberty. The terms of the dialogue can be inferred from the successive titles:  
 Williams, *The Bloudy Tenent of Persecution* (1644)  
 Cotton, *The Bloudy Tenent washed and made white in the blood of the Lambe* (1647)  
 Williams, *The Bloody Tenent, yet more bloody . . .* (1652)

T H E  
**BLOODY TENENT**  
 Y E T  
**More Bloody:**  
 B Y

Mr Cottons endeavour to wash it white in the  
 B L O O D of the L A M B E ;

- Of whose precious Blood, spilt in the  
 Blood of his Servants; and  
 Of the blood of Millions spilt in former and  
 later Wars for Conscience sake,

T H A T  
 Most Bloody Tenent of Persecution for cause of  
 Conscience, upon a second Tryal, is found now more  
 apparently and more notoriously guilty.

In this Rejoynder to Mr Cotton, are principally

I. *The Nature of Persecution,*  
 II. *The Power of the Civill Sword* } Examined;  
*in Spirituals*  
 III. *The Parliaments permission of* } Justified.  
*Dissenting Consciences*

Also (as a Testimony to Mr Clarks Narrative ) is added  
 a Letter to Mr Endicot Governor of the Massachusetts in N. E.

By R. WILLIAMS of Providence in New-England.

London, Printed for Giles Calvert, and are to be sold at  
 the black-spread-Eagle at the West-end of Pauls, 1652.



32413.20  
**MEMORABLE PROVIDENCES,**  
 Relating to  
**WITCHCRAFTS**  
 And POSSESSIONS.

A Faithful Account of many Wonderful and Surprising Things, that have befallen several Bewitched and Possessed Persons in New-England. Particularly, A NARRATIVE of the marvellous Trouble and Relief Experienced by a pious Family in Boston, very lately, and sadly molested with EVIL SPIRITS.

Whereunto is added,

A Discourse delivered unto a Congregation in Boston, on the Occasion of that Illustrious Providence.

As also

A Discourse delivered unto the same Congregation, on the occasion of an horrible Self-Murder Committed in the Town.

With an Appendix, in vindication of a Chapter in a late Book of Remarkable Providences, from the Calumnies of a Quaker at Pennsylvania.

Written By Cotton Mather, Minister of the Gospel.

And Recommended by the Ministers  
 of Boston and Charleston

Printed at Boston in N. England by R. P. 1689.  
 Sold by Joseph Brunning, at his Shop at the Corner of the Prison-Lane next the Exchange.

MORE  
**WONDERS**  
 OF THE  
**INVISIBLE WORLD:**  
 Or, The Wonders of the  
**Invisible World,**  
 Display'd in Five Parts.

Part I. An Account of the Sufferings of *Margaret Rule*, Written by the Reverend Mr. C. M.

P. II. Several Letters to the Author, &c. And his Reply relating to Witchcraft.

P. III. The Differences between the Inhabitants of *Salem Village*, and Mr. *Parris* their Minister, in New-England.

P. IV. Letters of a Gentleman uninterested, Endeavouring to prove the received Opinions about Witchcraft to be Orthodox. With short Essays to their Answers.

P. V. A short Historical Account of Matters of Fact in that Affair.

To which is added, A Postscript relating to a Book intitled, *The Life of Sir WILLIAM PHIPS*.

Collected by *Robert Calef*, Merchant, of Boston in New-England.

Licensed and Entred according to Order.

LONDON:

Printed for *Nath. Hillar*, at the *Princes-Arms*, in *London-Hall-street*, over against *St. Mary-Ax*, and *Joseph Collyer*, at the *Golden-Bible*, on *London-Bridge*. 1700.

# Wicked Witchcraft

The persecution of "witches" began long before the Salem trials of 1692 and was not unique to Salem. Witchcraft had been part of the lore and legend of New England since the beginning, and reached back into the pre-history of western Europe.

1. Books like *Memorable Providences* merely served to arouse an already prepared public.
2. Robert Calef's attack on the part ministers played in the witchcraft cases had the dubious distinction of being publicly burned in Harvard Yard (1700) by order of Increase Mather.
3. Samuel Sewall condemned witches but he later showed his humaneness in his pamphlet, *The Selling of Joseph* (1700), the first in a long series of antislavery tracts by Bostonians. John Greenleaf Whittier and his abolitionist fellows could look back some 130 years to the ancient "Judge of the old theocracy" for inspiration.
4. Sewall (1652-1730) served as a judge in the notorious Salem Witchcraft Trials of 1692; but he publicly repudiated his role in 1697. The lively diary he kept between 1674 and 1729 has been published and is one of our best sources for the texture of life in late seventeenth-century Boston.



Mass. Hist. Society from Nat. & Anti. Socy.  
Oct 8. 1863. [ 1 ]

## The Selling

OF

# JOSEPH

## A Memorial.

**F**ORASMUCH as Liberty is in real value next unto Life: None ought to part with it themselves, or deprive others of it, but upon most mature Consideration.

The Numberousness of Slaves at this Day in the Province, and the Uneasiness of them under their Slavery, hath put many upon thinking whether the Foundation of it be firmly and well laid; so as to sustain the Vast Weight that is built upon it. It is most certain that all Men, as they are the Sons of Adam, are Cohereis; and have equal Right unto Liberty, and all other outward Commodities of Life. GOD hath given the Earth [ with all its Commodities ] unto the Sons of Adam, Psalm 115. 16. And hath made of One Blood, all Nations of Mankind, for to dwell in a little Space of the Earth; and hath determined the Times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation: That they should seek the Lord. Forasmuch then as we are the Offspring of GOD &c. Acts 17. 26, 27, 29. Now although the Title given by the last ADAM, doth infinitely better Mens Estates, respecting GOD and themselves; and grants them a most beneficial and inviolable Lease under the Broad Seal of Heaven, who were before only Tenants at Will: Yet through the Indulgence of GOD to our First Parents after the Fall, the outward Estate of all and every of their Children, remains the same, as to one another. So that Originally, and Naturally, there is no such thing as Slavery. Joseph was rightfully no more a Slave to his Brethren, than they were to him: and they had no more Authority to Sell him, than they had to Slay him. And if they had nothing to do to Sell him; the Slaveholder bargaining with them, and paying down Twenty pieces of Silver, could not make a Title. Neither could Potiphar have any better Interest in him, than the Slaveholder had. Gen. 37. 20, 27, 28. For he that shall in this case plead Alteration of Property, seems to have sold a great part of his own claim to Humanity. There is no proportion between Twenty Pieces of Silver, and LIBERTY. The Commodity it self is the Claimant. If Arabian Gold be imported in any quantities, most are afraid to meddle with it, though they might have it at easy rates; lest it should have been wrongfully taken from the Owners, it should kindle a fire to the Consumption of their whole Estate. 'Tis pity there should be more Caution used in buying a Horse, or a little lifeless dust; than there is in purchasing Men and Women: Whereas they are the Offspring of GOD; and their Liberty is, *Auro pretiosior Omni.*

And seeing GOD hath said, He that Stealeth a Man and Selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, he shall surely be put to Death. Exod. 21. 16. This Law being of everlasting Equity, wherein Man Stealing is ranked amongst the most atrocious of Capital Crimes: What louder Cry can there be made of that Celebrated Warning,

*Caveat Emptor!*

And

# The Considerable Mathers

The Mathers are the first of those eminent and idiosyncratic families that give a special flavor and character to the history of Boston. Not only were they a consistent political force in the life of the colony, beginning with Richard Mather (1596-1669); they also contributed greatly to the intellectual and literary life of Boston and New England. The family accumulated possibly the largest private library in the New World before the Revolution—over 4,000 volumes. Given the scarcity and expense of books during the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, this was a remarkable achievement, and a testimony to the lust for learning in provincial Boston.

1. Increase Mather (1639-1723), son of Richard, was a clergyman of note, president of Harvard College, and a political leader of first importance.
2. Mather's sermon, *The Wicked Man's Portion*, is noted as the first book (1675) printed in Boston itself rather than Cambridge. It is typical of the massive publication of sermons during the period.



1

**Cases of Conscience**  
Concerning evil  
**SPIRITS**

Personating Men,  
Witchcrafts, infallible Proofs of  
Guilt in such as are accused  
with that Crime.

All Considered according to the Scriptures,  
History, Experience, and the Judgment  
of many Learned men.

By Increase Mather, President of Harvard  
Colledge at Cambridge, and Teacher of  
a Church at BOSTON in New-England.

PROV. 22. 21. — That thou mightest Answer the  
words of Truth, to them that send unto thee.

*Efficiunt Dæmones, ut quæ non sunt, sic tamen, quæ  
sunt, conspicienda hominibus exhibeant. Lactantius Lib.  
2. Instit. Cap. 15. Diabolus Consulitur, cum ijs medijs  
utimur aliqui Cognoscendique a Diabolo sunt introducta.  
Aner. Cas. Consc. L. 4. Cap. 22.*

BOSTON Printed, and Sold by Benjamin  
Harris at the London Coffee-Houle. 1693.

2

*The Wicked mans Portion.*

OR  
**A SERMON**

(Preached at the Lecture in Boston in New England the  
28th day of the 3 Month 1674, when two men  
were executed, who had murdered  
their Master.)

Wherein is shewed

*That exesse in wickedness doth bring  
untimely Death.*

By INCREASE MATHER, Teacher  
of a Church of Christ.

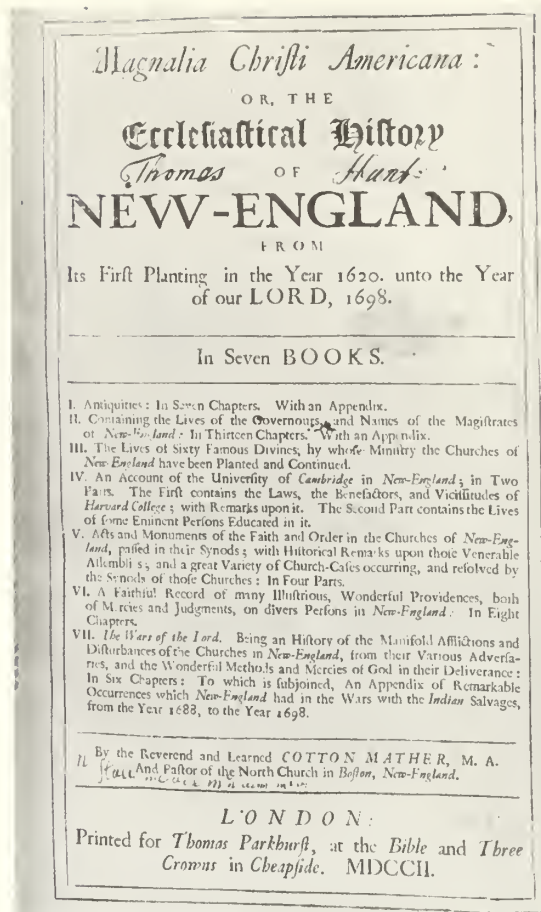
Prov. 10. 27. The fear of the Lord prolongeth dayes, but the years  
of the wicked shall be shortened.

Eph. 6. 2. 9. Honour thy Father and thy Mother (which is the first  
Commandment with promise) that it may be well with thee,  
and thou mayst live long on the Earth.

*Pæna ad paucos, metus ad omnes.*

BOSTON,  
Printed by John Foster. 1675





3

3. Cotton Mather (1663-1728), son of Increase, is perhaps the most prolific writer in American literary history, with nearly 500 items in his bibliography. A stoutly orthodox Boston Puritan clergyman, like his forefathers, he was also a fellow of the Royal Society, interested in the latest scientific advances.

4. Cotton Mather's *Magnalia Christi Americana*—published in a splendid folio edition in 1702—is a conscious attempt to write a New England epic to compare with the national epic of Rome's founding, the *Aeneid*: *I write the Wonders of the CHRISTIAN RELIGION, flying from the Depravations of Europe, to the American Strand . . . and relate the Considerable Matters that produced and attended the First Settlement of COLONIES.*

4

## Decennium Luctuosum :

OR, THE

## REMARKABLES

Of a Long

## WAR

WITH

## INDIAN-SALVAGES.

*Nobis in arcto, & inglorius Labor. Tacit.*

## INTRODUCTION.

**T**WENTY-three Years have Roul'd away since the Nations of Indians within the Confines of New-England, generally began a Fierce War upon the English Inhabitants of that Country. The Flame of War then Raged thro' a great Part of the Country, whereby many whole Towns were laid in Ashes, and many Lives were Sacrificed. But in little more than One Year's time, the United Colonies of Plymouth, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, with their united Endeavours, bravely Conquered the Salvages. The Evident Hand of Heaven appearing on the side of a People, whose Hope and Help was alone in the Almighty Lord of Hosts, extinguished whole Nations of the Salvages at such a Rate, that there can hardly any of them now be found under any Distinction upon the Face of the Earth. Only the Fate of our Northern and Eastern Regions is that War was very different from that of the rest. The Declarations of the War had overwhelmed all the Settlements to the North-East of Wells. And when the time arrived, that all Hands were weary of the War, a sort of a Peace was patched up, which left a Body of Indians, not only with horrible Murders Unavenged, but also in the possession of no little Part of the Country, with Circumstances which the English might think not very Honourable. Upon this Peace the English returned unto their Plantations, their Number increased; they

Stock'd their Farms, and Sow'd their Fields; they found the Air as fresh, as the Earth was fruitful; their Labour and their Fertility became a considerable Merchandise; continual Accessions were made unto them, until Ten or a Dozen Towns in the Province of Nova, and the County of Cornwall, were suddenly Started up into something of Observation. But in the Year 1688, the Indians which dwell'd after the Indian manner among them, commenced another War upon their Plantations which hath broke them up, and Prang'd held us in Play for Ten Years together. In these Ten Years there hath been a variety of remarkable Occurrences, and because I have supposed that a Relation of those Occurrences may be acceptable and Profitable to some of my Countrymen, I shall now with all Faithfulness Endeavour it. With all Faithfulness, I say, because tho' there should happen any Circumstantial Mistake in our Story, yet 'tis a rare thing for any Two Men concern'd in the same Action to give the Story of it without some Circumstantial Difference; yet even this also I shall be willing to Retract and Correct, if there be found any just Occasion: But for any one Material Error in the whole Composure, I challenge the most Sagacious Malice upon Earth to detect it, while matters are yet so fresh as to allow the Detection of it. I did aim to make the Apology once made by the Roman Historian, *Nemo Historicus*

208



## BONIFACIUS.

## AN ESSAY

Upon the GOOD, that is to be Devis'd and Designed,

BY THOSE

Who Desire to Answer the Great END of Life, and to DO GOOD

While they Live.

A BOOK Offered,

First, in General, unto all CHRISTIANS, in a PERSONAL Capacity, or in a RELATIVE.

Then more Particularly,

Unto MAGISTRATES, unto MINISTERS, unto PHYSICIANS, unto LAWYERS, unto SCHOLEMASTERS, unto Wealthy GENTLEMEN, unto several Sorts of OFFICERS, unto CHURCHES, and unto all SOCIETIES of a Religious Character and Intention. With Humble PROPOSALS, of Unexceptionable METHODS, to Do Good in the World.

Eph. VI. 18 *Knowing that whatsoever Good thing any man does, the same shall he receive of the Lord.*

BOSTON, in N. England: Printed by D. Green, for Samuel Gerrish at his Shop in Corn Hill: 1710

5a

5b

6

5. King Philip, sachem of the Wampanoags, began a bloody war against the English in 1675. His defeat, as Mather saw it in the *Magnalia*, was an instance of God's purpose for New England.

6. Mather's *Bonifacius* was the most popular of his works throughout the eighteenth century; though composed with the best intentions, it left him open to the charge of being a "busy-body." Essentially it outlines a strategy for restoring what Mather felt was the lost unity and fervor of Puritan Boston: *To spread the Nets of Salvation for men, in the ways of their Personal Callings, and convey Good Thoughts unto them, in the terms and Steps of their Daily Business, is a Real Service to the Interests of Piety.*







Published according to Act of Parliament, Sept. 11, 1773 by Arch<sup>d</sup> Be<sup>r</sup>  
Bookfeller N<sup>o</sup> 8 near the Saracens Head Aldgate.

3

P O E M S

O N

VARIOUS SUBJECTS,

RELIGIOUS AND MORAL.

B Y

PHILLIS WHEATLEY,

NEGRO SERVANT TO MR. JOHN WHEATLEY  
of BOSTON, in NEW ENGLAND.

L O N D O N:

Printed for A BELL, Bookfeller, Aldgate; and sold by  
Messrs. COX and BERRY, King-Street, BOSTON.

M DCC LXXIII.

3. Phillis Wheatley (1753?-1784) came to America from Africa as a child of seven or eight, in 1761. A wealthy Boston merchant bought her, and his wife educated her. She was hailed as a black prodigy in Europe and America. Her poems have some allusions to her blackness, but for the most part they are conventional eighteenth-century verses:

*MNEME begin. Inspire ye sacred nine.  
Your vent'rous Afric in her great  
design.*

*Mneme, immortal pow'r, I trace they  
spring:*

*Assist my strains, while I thy glories  
sing:*

("On Recollections")





## Provincialism

The provincial qualities of the colonists, their cultural isolation, primitiveness, simple manners, and rustic philosophy, once disparaged by sophisticated Europeans, were viewed by eighteenth-century philosophers as virtues. North America approximated their ideal uncorrupted state of nature. Ben Franklin charmed the French court as emissary of the new world and its Republican style.

England *Courant* in April 1721. In 1722 when James was jailed for offending the authorities, sixteen-year-old Ben edited the *Courant* himself and published witty satirical essays (provoked by Cotton Mather's *Essays to do Good*), under the pseudonym of "Silence Dogood."

1. James Franklin, with the contributions of a group of radical writers known as the "hell-fire club," launched the *New*

2. Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) was the original self-made man. Unable to pursue a formal education because of his family's poverty, he read extensively and had access to the vast libraries of Cotton Mather and Mathew Adams. In his seventeenth year, after many quarrels with his brother, he left Boston for Philadelphia.



3. The Franklins' Boston; the famous John Bonner map of 1722.



Revolutionary  
Agitation

The American Revolution did not burst forth suddenly on April 19, 1775. It had its roots in Puritan theology where man made his covenant with God rather than with any earthly authority; in eighteenth-century philosophies of natural rights versus absolute state power; in the colonial experience of self-government and local autonomy. As John Adams observed, the revolution was effected in the hearts and the minds of the people long before the war commenced.

- 1. James Otis (1725-1783) was a pre-revolutionary leader who recognized the supremacy of Parliament but argued for colonial representation; he was criticized by both loyalists and patriots.
- 2. The Massachusetts Gazette, decorated with the king's arms, was one of the major vehicles for defenders of the crown and the loyalist cause.
- 3. The Broadside was a powerful propaganda tool. An announcement of a boycott against a tea merchant was effective since few dared to disregard the instructions of the Sons of Liberty.

WILLIAM JACKSON,  
an IMPORTER; at the  
BRAZEN HEAD,  
North Side of the TOWN-HOUSE,  
and Opposite the Town-Pump, in  
Corn-hill, BOSTON.

It is desired that the SONS and  
DAUGHTERS of LIBERTY,  
would not buy any one thing of  
him, for in so doing they will bring  
Disgrace upon themselves, and their  
Posterity, for ever and ever, AMEN

J. F. Elwt's  
THE  
RIGHTS  
OF THE  
British Colonies

Asserted and proved.

By James Otis, Esq;

Hec omnis regio et celsi plaga pinea montis  
Cedat amicitia Teucrorum : et fœderis aquas  
Dicamus leges, sociisque in regna vocemus.  
Confidant, si tantus amor, et mœnia condant.  
VIRG.

BOSTON:  
Printed and Sold by EDES and GILL, in Queen-Street.  
M,DCC,LXIV.

[NOVEMBER, 1774.]

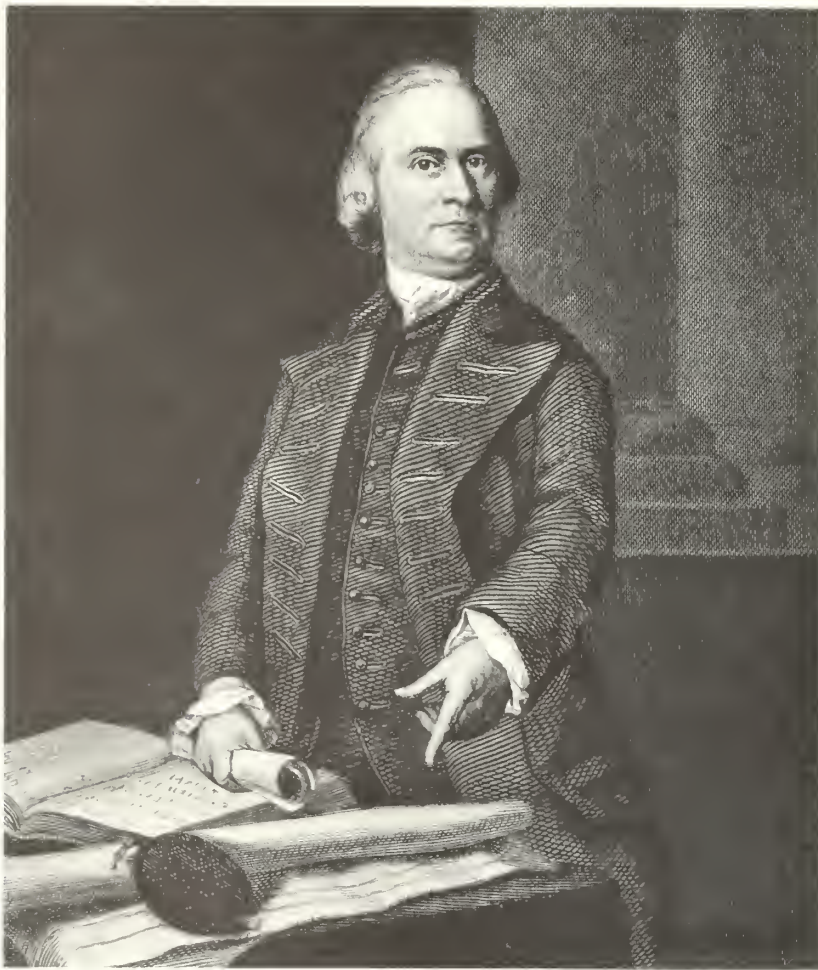
Massachusetts  
AND  
BOSTON POST-BOY



THE  
GAZETTE;  
THE  
AND ADVERTISER.

FROM MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, TO MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1774.





4

AN  
A P P E A L  
TO THE  
W O R L D;  
OR A  
VINDICATION  
OF THE  
TOWN of BOSTON,

FROM

Many false and malicious Aspersions

CONTAIN'D

In certain Letters and Memorials, written by Governor Bernard, General Gage, Commodore Hood, the Commissioners of the American Board of Customs, and others, and by them respectively transmitted to the British Ministry.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TOWN.

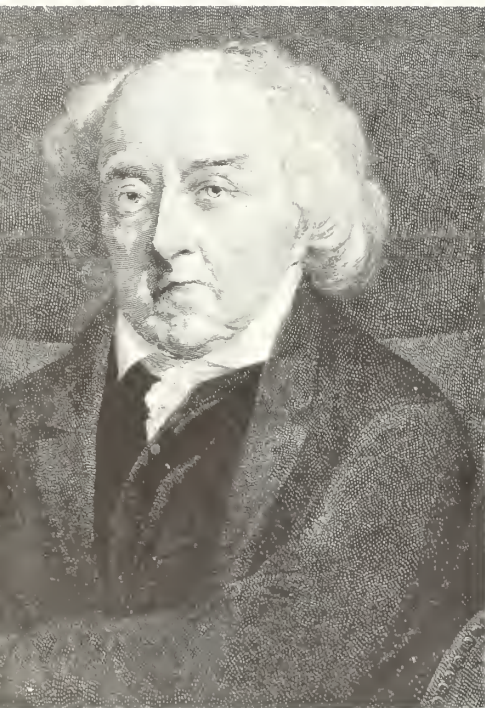
PRINTED AND SOLD BY EDES AND GILL,  
IN QUEEN-STREET, BOSTON, 1769.

5

4. Sam Adams (1722-1803) was the leader of the extreme wing of revolutionary agitators. Although not a powerful public speaker, Adams used his vitriolic pen to convict the acquitted soldiers in the Boston Massacre, to challenge the rights of parliament to tax the colonies, and to organize the colonists to form a union for the redress of grievances.
5. Sam Adams engaged in long-range debates as a spokesman for the town all through the pre-revolutionary period, as in this pamphlet attributed to his pen. Edes and Gill, the printers of this piece, were famous as the agency through which polemic was dispensed.
6. Boston, in the first stages of the Revolution, was the focus of propaganda, as in this 1774 English cartoon.







1

*Will Mason*

A

## DEFENCE

OF THE

### Constitutions of Government

OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

By JOHN ADAMS, LL. D.

And a Member of the Academy of Arts and Sciences at Boston.

*All nature's difference keeps all nature's peace.* POPR.

PHILADELPHIA:

Printed for HALL and SELLERS; J. CRUKSHANK; and  
Young and McCulloch.

M.DCC.LXXXVII.

## The Adams Dynasty

Like the Mathers before them, the Adamses embody a New England tradition. The family comes to prominence first with John in the crucial years of the 1760's and continues from generation to generation to influence Boston, and American life in general, down to the early years of our century with the uniquely perceptive work of John's great-grandson Henry. The family's heritage, as preserved in printed and manuscript form, constitutes one of the country's literary treasures.



3

1. John Adams (1735-1826) in old age. He became the second president of the United States and was a sometime friend, sometime enemy of Thomas Jefferson. Reconciled in their last years, the two patriots died within hours of each other on the Fourth of July, 1826.

2. A prolific and powerful writer on the philosophy of government, what we would call political science, Adams produced a number of classic works: *A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law*, the "Novanglus" letters on the rights of the colonies, the *Discourses on Davila*, as well as the *Defence of the Constitutions* . . . :

*In the present state of society and manners in America, with a people living chiefly by agriculture, in small numbers, sprinkled over large tracts of land, they are not subject to those panics and transports, those contagions of madness and folly, which are seen in countries where large numbers live in small places in daily fear of perishing for want. We know, therefore, that the people can live and increase under almost any kind of government, or without any government at all. But it is of great importance to begin well; misarrange-*

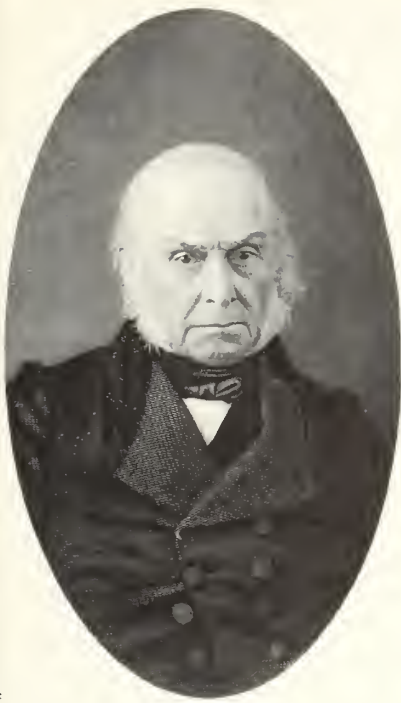
*ments now made will have great, extensive, and distant consequences; and we are now employed, how little soever we may think of it, in making establishments which will affect the happiness of a hundred millions of inhabitants at a time in a period not very distant.*

3. Abigail (Smith) Adams (1744-1818), in every respect the intellectual and moral equal of her husband, urged on him the need for women's participation in government:

*—I long to hear that you have declared an independancy—and by the way in the new Code of Laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make I desire you would Remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favourable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands. Remember all Men would be tyrants if they could. If perticular care and attentions is not paid to the Ladies we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation.*

(Letter to John Adams 1776)

2



4

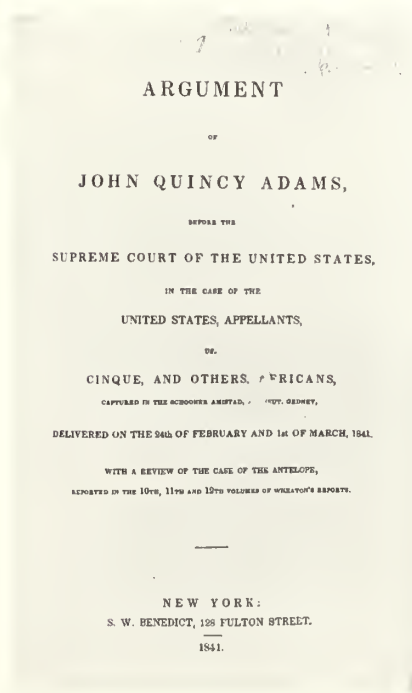
4. John Quincy Adams (1767-1848), distinguished son of distinguished parents, also achieved the presidency (1824).

5. The stately Adams family seat in Quincy, home to several generations.

6. John Quincy Adams's finest hour came when he successfully defended the right of blacks to rebel against their captors and would-be masters in the famous case of the slave ship *Amistad* (1841): *When the Amistad first came within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, acts of violence had passed between the two parties, the Spaniards and Africans on board of her, but on which side these acts were lawless, on which side were the oppressors, was a question of right and wrong, for the settlement of which, if the government and people of the United States interfered at all, they were bound in duty to extend their sympathy to them all; and if they intervened at all between them, the duty incumbent upon this intervention was not of favor but of impartiality—not of sympathy, but of JUSTICE, dispensing to every individual his own right.*



5



6





# AMERICAN SELECTION

OF

Lessons in Reading and Speaking.

CALCULATED

To IMPROVE the MINDS and REFINE the TASTE of YOUTH.

AND ALSO,

To instruct them in the GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, and POLITICS of the UNITED STATES.

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,

RULES in ELUCIDATION and DIRECTIONS for expressing the principal PASSIONS of the MIND.

BY

The THIRD PART of a GRAMMATICAL INSTITUTE of the ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

BY NOAH WEBSTER, JUN. ESQUIRE.

AUTHOR of "DISSERTATIONS on the ENGLISH LANGUAGE," "COLLECTION of ESSAYS and FUGITIVE WRITINGS," &c.

Thomas and Andrews's SECOND EDITION. With many CORRECTIONS and IMPROVEMENTS, by the AUTHOR.

"Begin with the Infant in his Cradle: Let the first Word be taught be WASHINGTON."—MIRABEAU.

PRINTED AT BOSTON,

BY ISAIAH THOMAS and EBENEZER T. ANDREWS, AT FAUST'S STATION, No. 45, NEWBURY STREET.

Sold, Wholesale and Retail, at their Bookstore; by said Thomas at his Bookstore in Worcester, and by the Booksellers in Town and Country. MDCCCXII.

## A Rising National Culture

As the young American nation sought to express its newfound selfhood, distinctly American forms emerged. No longer did one rely on Europe for guidance in pedagogical literature. American cities, chiefly Boston and Philadelphia, vied for pre-eminence in the textbook field. Political leaders spoke of the nation's destiny while historians celebrated the glories of the American past or sought to compete with the great masters of European history. Characteristic American patterns of thought and expression that were established in the early nineteenth century still have potency in current political exchanges.

1

84 AN EASY STANDARD  
foam made the young chap hasten down from the tree, and beg the old man's pardon.

### MORAL.

If good words and gentle means will not reclaim the wicked, they must be dealt with in a more severe manner.

### TABLE XXVII.

In all words ending in *ow* unaccented, *o* is silent, and *a* has its full sound. Many of these words are corrupted in vulgar pronunciation; *where* is called *fool*, &c. for which reason the words of this class are collected in the following table.

|                 |         |          |          |
|-----------------|---------|----------|----------|
| <b>B</b> Ar-row | bel-low | hal-low  | win-now  |
| bel-low         | har-row | shad-ow  | yel-low  |
| bil-low         | cal-low | shal-low |          |
| el-bow          | mal-low | spar-row | bor-row  |
| fel-low         | mar-row | tal-low  | fol-low  |
| fal-low         | men-low | whit-low | mor-row  |
| far-row         | mel-low | wid-ow   | for-row  |
| fur-row         | min-now | wil-low  | wal-low  |
| gal-low         | nar-row | win-dow  | fwal-low |

### TABLE XXVIII.

In the following words, *a* sounds like *eh*. Thus, *con-fu-sion* is pronounced *con-fel-on*; *traf-fer*, *dra-gon*; *maur*, *maior*; *o-fice*, *wich-was*.  
Note, in this and the following table, the figures show the accented syllables, without any other direction.

|                  |              |             |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>B</b> Ra-fier | am-bro-fial  | dis-fu-sion |
| cro-fier         | ad-he-fion   | ef-fu-sion  |
| glu-ir           | al-lu-fion   | ex-clu-sion |
| o-zier           | co-he-fion   | ex-plu-sion |
| ra-fure          | col-lu-fion  | e-va-sion   |
| ho-fier          | con-clu-fion | at-tra-sion |
| fei-fure         | con-fu-sion  | cor-ro-sion |
| fu-yion          | con-tu-fion  | de-tru-sion |
|                  | de-lu-fion   | dis-pu-sion |

## OF PRONUNCIATION.

|             |             |                 |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| em-bra-ure  | mea-ure     | de-rif-ion      |
| en-clo-ure  | plea-ure    | e-ly-ion        |
| e-ra-fion   | tra-ure     | e-ly-fion       |
| il-lu-fion  | leif-ure    | pro-ef-ion      |
| ia-tru-fion | az-ure      | pro-vif-ion     |
| in-fu-fion  |             | al-lif-ion      |
| pro-fu-fion | ab-fif-ion  | rel-fion        |
| oc-ca-fion  | col-lif-ion |                 |
| ob-tru-fion | con-cif-ion | cir-cum-cif-ion |
|             | di-vif-ion  |                 |
| vif-ion     | de-cif-ion  |                 |

The compounds and derivatives follow the same rule.



TABLE II.—The COUNTRY MAID and her MILK PAIL.

WHEN men suffer their imagination to amuse them with the prospect of distant and uncertain improvement. If their condition, they frequently neglect real topics, by their inattention to those affairs in which they are immediately concerned.

A country maid was walking very deliberately with a pail of milk upon her head, when the fell into the

1. Noah Webster (1758-1843) of the Connecticut Valley, who felt that the child "should rehearse the history of his own country," led the way in schoolbook reform.
2. Webster's famous "blueback" speller went through countless editions and established distinctive American Spellings: for example, "labor" for "labour."
3. Jedediah Morse held that Americans should have their own textbooks, uncorrupted by monarchical and aristocratic ideas. His geographies informed curious Americans about their continent.
4. In addition to the *Columbian Orator*, Caleb Bingham edited the *American Praeceptor*. Both had a distinctly nationalistic flavor.

2

*Crashaw* THE *Sergeant's*  
**A M E R I C A N  
 G E O G R A P H Y ;**  
 O R,  
 A VIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION  
 OF THE  
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

CONTAINING  
 Astronomical Geography; Geographical Definitions; Discovery, and General Description of America.  
 Summary account of the Discoveries and settlements of North America; General View of the United States; Of their Boundaries; Lakes; Bays and Rivers; Mountains; Productions; Population; Government; Agriculture, Commerce; Manufactures; History; Concise Account of the War, and of the important Events which have succeeded. Biographical Sketches of several illustrious Heroes.  
 General account of New England; Of its Boundaries; Extent; Divisions; Mountains; Rivers; Natural History; Productions; Population; Character; Trade; History.  
 Particular Descriptions of the Thirteen United States, and of Kentucky, The Western Territory and Vermont.—Of their Extent; Civil Divisions; Chief Towns; Climate; Rivers; Mountains; Soils; Productions; Trade; Manufactures; Agriculture; Population; Character; Constitutions; Courts of Justice; Colleges; Academies and Schools; Religion; Islands; Indians; Literary and Humane Societies; Springs; Canals; &c. &c.

Illustrated with two Sheet Maps.—One of the Southern, the other of the Northern States, neatly and elegantly engraved, and more correct than any that have hitherto been published.

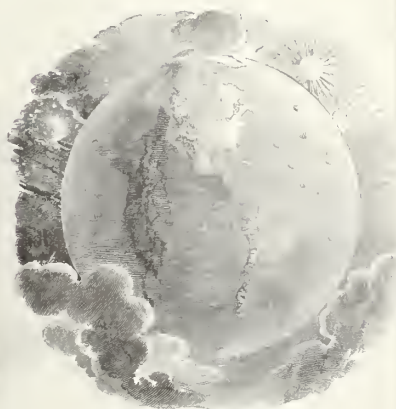
To which is added, a concise Abridgment of the Geography of the British, Spanish, French and Dutch Dominions in America, and the West Indies.—Of Europe, Asia and Africa.

By JEDIDIAH MORSE.

ELIZABETH TOWN:

PRINTED BY SHEPARD KOLLOCK, FOR THE AUTHOR.  
 M,DCC,LXXXIX.

PICTURE OF THE NEW WORLD



DISCOVERED BY COLUMBUS OCTOBER 11. 1492

THE  
**FIRST BOOK**  
 OF  
**HISTORY.**



FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

BY THE AUTHOR OF PETER PARLEY'S TALES.

WITH SIXTY ENGRAVINGS AND SIXTEEN MAPS.

BOSTON:

RICHARDSON, LORD & HOLBROOK,

133 NASSAULT STREET

1821.

**T H E  
 C O L U M B I A N O R A T O R :**  
 CONTAINING  
 A V A R I E T Y O F  
 Original and Selected PIECES ;  
 T O G E T H E R W I T H  
 R U L E S ;  
 C A L C U L A T E D  
 T O I M P R O V E Y O U T H A N D O T H E R S I N T H E  
 O R N A M E N T A L A N D U S E F U L  
**A R T O F E L O Q U E N C E .**

By CALEB BINGHAM, A. M.

Author of The American Preceptor, Young Lady's Accidence, &c.

"CATO cultivated ELOQUENCE, as a necessary mean for defending THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE, and for enforcing good Councils."  
 ROLLIN.

Published according to Act of Congress.

Boston :

Printed by MANNING & LORING ;  
 For the AUTHOR, No. 44, for DAVID WEST, No. 56,  
 and for JOHN WEST, No. 75, CORNHILL.

MAY, 1797.

5. Samuel Goodrich (1793-1860), a prolific author of juvenile literature, produced this typical history for use in the schools. The image of a new day dawning on the western hemisphere suggests the great hope for the new nation's prospects which one finds in history writing of the period.



6

A  
HISTORY  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES,  
FROM THE DISCOVERY OF THE AMERICAN CONTINENT  
TO THE PRESENT TIME.  
BY GEORGE BANCROFT.  
VOL. I.  
BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY CHARLES BOWEN.  
LONDON,  
R. J. KENNETT.  
1834

7

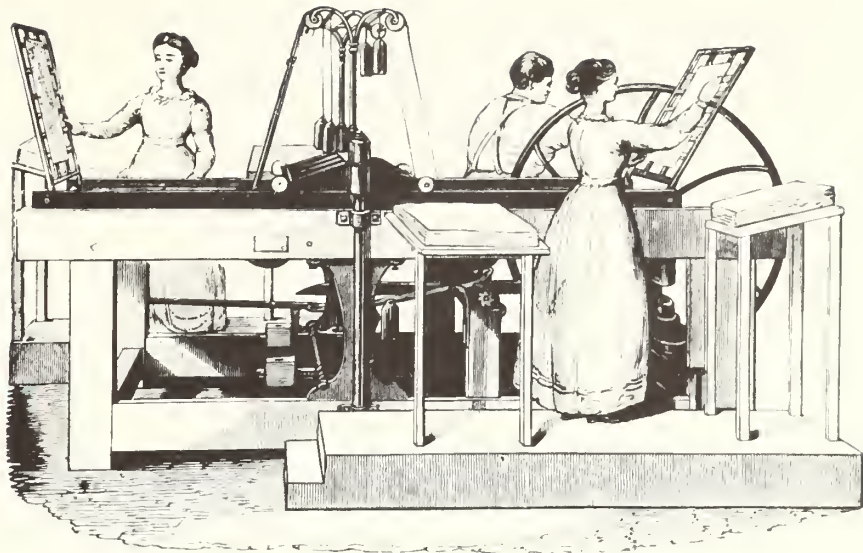
6. William Hickling Prescott (1796-1859) wrote a major series on the Spanish conquistadors. He, Francis Parkman (1823-1893), and John Lothrop Motley (1814-1877) form the "Romantic" or literary school of American historians. Motley wrote on the founding of the Dutch republic and Parkman on the discovery of the North American continent. All shared wealthy backgrounds and a disdain for the rough and tumble of nineteenth-century America. Such was not the case with their fellow historian, George Bancroft.
7. George Bancroft (1800-1891) was active in the Democratic Party and wrote of his own country rather than of Europe. His flamboyant *History* reflected both a belief in American progress and his Jacksonian political bias.



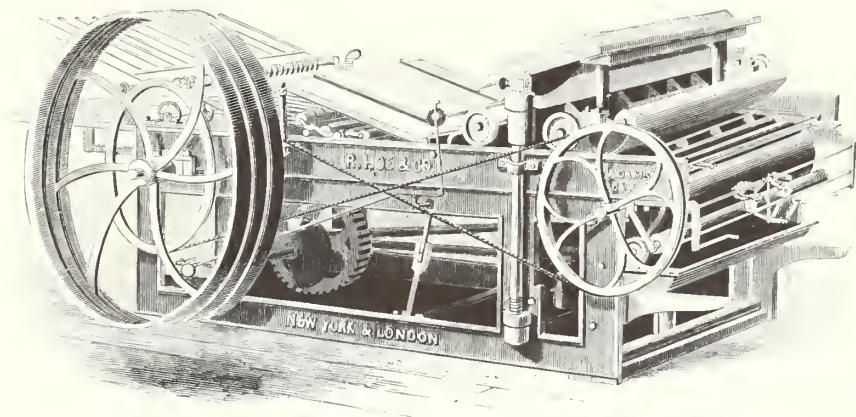
# Publishing Becomes a Business

The Industrial Revolution did not leave printing and publishing untouched. The application of technology and the investment of accumulated capital led to vast increases in the speed and volume of production, with a corresponding decrease in the price per unit—reading matter became cheap and widely available. The artisan-centered trade of Stephen Daye, the Franklin brothers, and Edes and Gill became much more specialized and mechanized in the nineteenth century.

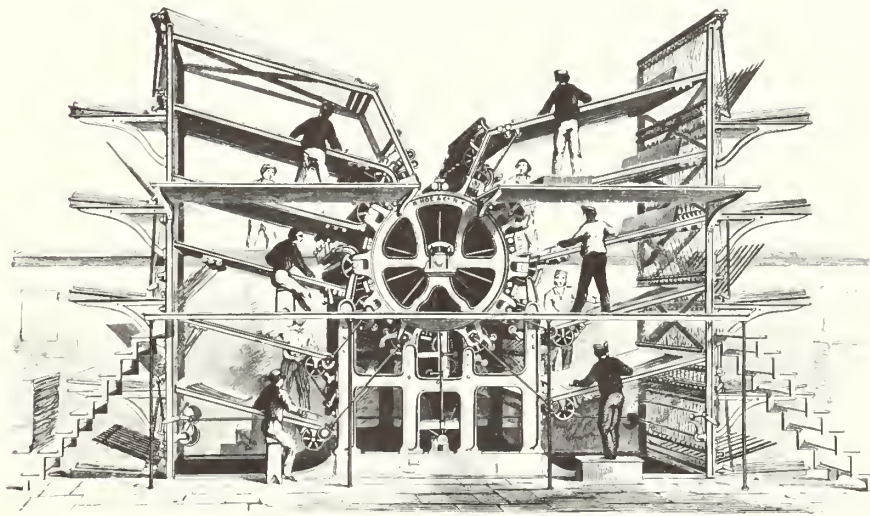
1. Daniel Treadwell perfected a power press in Boston as early as 1822.
2. Isaac Adams's power platen press of the 1830's, developed in Boston, made possible fine quality book work at a high speed.
3. The development of curved stereotype plates and high-speed cylinder presses made it possible for production of newspapers and periodicals to follow quickly on events—the modern notion of "news" became possible.



1



2



3

**BOOK WORK**

FINE  
OR PLAIN, AND

**JOB PRINTING,**  
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION  
Done at the shortest notice, and on the most  
reasonable terms, by  
**S.N. DICKINSON,**  
AT NO 52 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON.

**(STEREOTYPING)**  
Executed in the very best manner, and from  
SCOTCH-CUT LETTER, the most beautiful Type  
ever offered to the Trade in this country.  
FOR DURABILITY IT IS UNEQUALLED.

**Type Foundry**  
**BOOK, JOB, AND NEWSPAPER TYPE,**  
OF THE MOST APPROVED KINDS.  
On hand, or cast to order, from Scotch or American Matrices.  
Printing material in general promptly furnished.

**EMBOSSED CARDS:**  
*A great variety of patterns, both large and  
small, constantly on hand, among which  
are many beautiful patterns for.*

MARRIAGE CARDS      REWARDS OF MERIT &c

4. Competition for printing business led to the use of elaborate advertising cards.
5. Americans began to design and cut their own strident typefaces, suited to an industrial and commercial age. The Boston Type and Stereotype Foundry was one of the earliest in the century.
6. The availability of inexpensive machine-made paper, and techniques for casting plates from wood engravings, combined with modern presses, made cheap, illustrated, mass-audience papers common.







1

## Literary Society

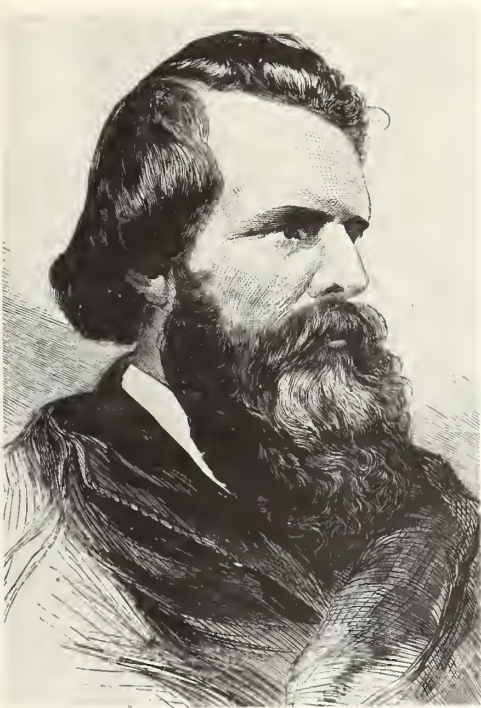
A “high” literary culture requires an urban milieu for the exchange of ideas and energy; it needs outlets and arenas for the play of creative forces. Virtually alone in America, Boston offered that kind of community and support in the nineteenth century—publishing houses, salons, and periodicals all devoted to the furtherance of culture. Close analogs might be found in Augustan London or twentieth-century Greenwich Village in New York.



2

1. The Old Corner Bookstore was the home of the publishers Ticknor & Fields and port of call for every noted author of the mid-nineteenth century—not only famous Americans but also the Englishmen, Dickens and Thackeray.
2. Nathaniel Hawthorne (center) with his publishers, James T. Fields and William D. Ticknor.
3. James T. Fields (1817-1881) was one of the first geniuses of American commercial publishing. He was largely self-educated and had promotional ability and business sense.
4. Annie (Adams) Fields (1834-1915), wife of James, gathered the famous and gifted to her salon in what Henry James called her “Charles Street Waterside Museum.”
5. *The Boston Book*, a frequent production of, by, and for Bostonians—the epitome of the genteel holiday gift.





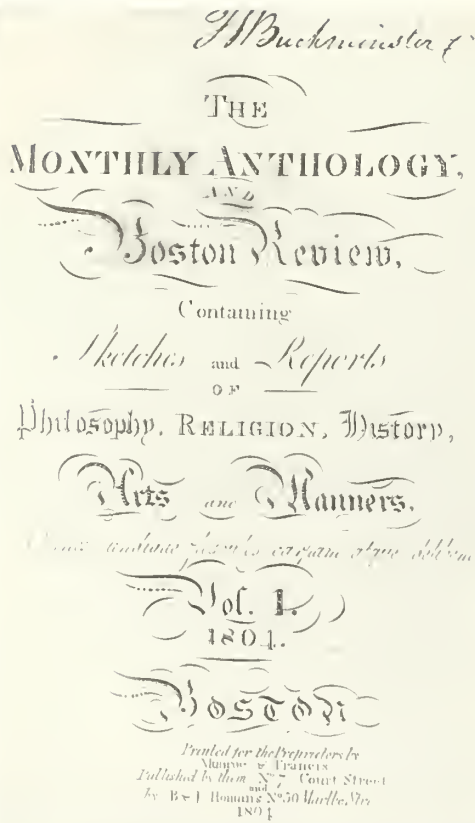
3



4



5



6

NORTH-AMERICAN REVIEW

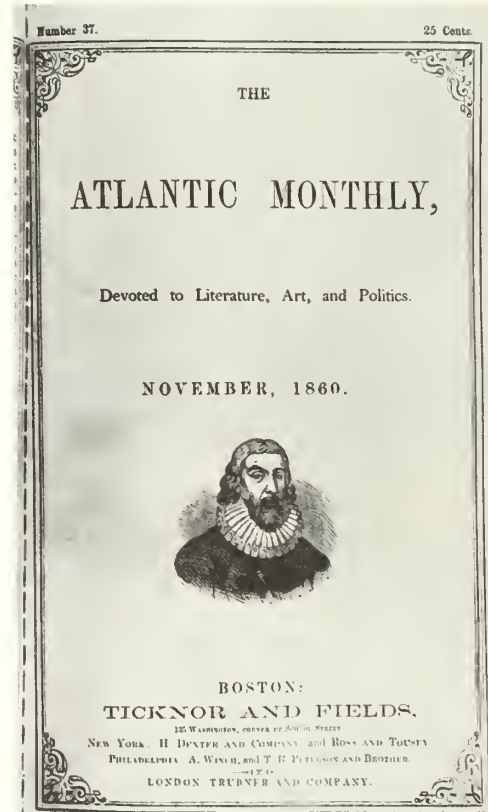
MISCELLANEOUS JOURNAL.

VOLUME FIRST.

BOSTON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY WELLS AND LEECH  
Court-Street.  
1815

7



8

6. The short-lived *Monthly Anthology* (1804-1811), was founded by the Anthology Club, which eventually gave rise to the present-day Boston Athenaeum.
7. *The North American Review* was young nationalistic Boston's response to the great English reviews, *Blackwood's* and the *Edinburgh*. It was published in Boston from 1815 until 1878, when it removed to New York.
8. *The Atlantic Monthly*, founded in 1857 and still published in Boston, was the voice of liberal, enlightened Boston on the eve of the Civil War.

## Freedom's Ferment

In the second quarter of the nineteenth century, a wave of reform movements—temperance, women's rights, abolitionism, nativism—surfaced in an atmosphere of great hope and pride in the American experiment and anxiety over the social and political changes America was undergoing.

1. First concerned with excessive drinking, the temperance movement evolved into the cold-water pledge of complete abstinence. Active in the crusade were churchwomen who now had a public voice outside the home.

2. Horace Mann (1796-1859), first Massachusetts education secretary. His major reforms, teacher training and compulsory education, grew from his belief that education could cure the social ills of cities:

*Education, then beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men—the balance-wheel of the social machinery. I do not here mean that it so elevates the moral nature as to make men disdain and abhor the oppression of their fellow-men. This idea pertains to another of its attributes. But I mean that it gives each man the independence and the means, by which he can resist the selfishness of other men. It does better than to disarm the poor of their hostility towards the rich; it prevents being poor.*

*("The Great Equalizer of the Conditions of Men")*

**CONSIDER AND DECIDE.**

ALL HANDS, AHOY!!





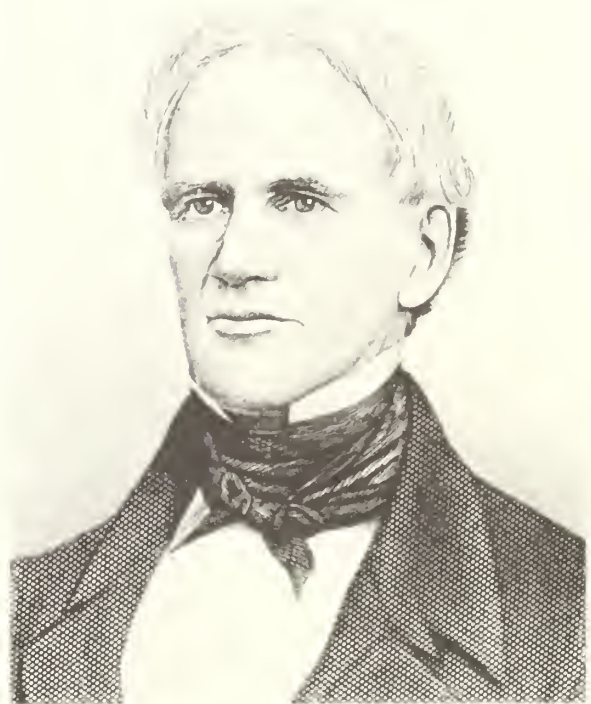
**Highly Important and Recent Facts, FOR ALL REASONABLE PERSONS.**

What is the chief cause of the *Murders, Fires, Quarrrels, Poverty, Illness, and Crime*, which so much abound? Let the following **FACTS** answer:

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>AVARICE AND ENMITY:</p> <p>WOMEN AT 1836</p> | <p>A MURDERER IN PRISON:</p> <p>CHILDREN AT 1836</p> | <p>THE WELLS OF THE FLOOD:</p> <p>THE WELLS OF THE FLOOD</p> |
|---|--|--|

Friends of Humanity! Philanthropists and Christians! can not more be done to rescue our land from the fell destroyer, and enemy of man?

**JULY, 1836.**







3

RECORD  
OF  
CONVERSATIONS ON THE GOSPELS,  
HELD IN  
MR. ALCOTT'S SCHOOL;  
UNFOLDING  
THE DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE  
OF  
HUMAN CULTURE.

Except a Man be converted and become as a little Child, — be born again,  
— of water and of the Spirit, he cannot see, — nor enter into, — the  
kingdom of Heaven.

JESUS OF NAZARETH

VOLUME I.

BOSTON:  
JAMES MUNROE AND COMPANY.  
1836.

4



3. Bronson Alcott (1799-1888) stressed dialogue and self-exploration, instead of rote learning in his experimental Temple School:  
*Alcott: Spirit is the body builder, Temperance is the body preserver; Self-indulgence is the body waster; spirit acts on and through matter. Do any of you think that matter is solid, unalterable, unyielding to the agency of spirit? (Several held up hands)*  
*Alcott: or is it soft, yielding, fluid, easily moved, continually affected by the spirit that stirs in it, and shapes it to our senses? (Most held up their hands)*  
*Is your body what it was an hour ago in all respects? (None)*

4. The publishing of Alcott's unorthodox interpretation of the Gospels gave his critics the ammunition they needed to discredit him. His school closed soon after.

5. Brook Farm, a communal experiment (1841-1846), was initiated by the Unitarian minister George Ripley. Publicized in the *Dial*, it became a mecca for Transcendentalists.



5

6. A novel based on Nathaniel Hawthorne's summer at Brook Farm. Hollingsworth, the spiritual leader of the Utopian community, embodies the evil of the genius-reformer who sacrifices all human sympathy to accomplish his ends:

*There was something else in Hollingsworth besides flesh and blood, and sympathies and affections, and celestial spirit.*

*This always true of those men who have surrendered themselves to an overruling purpose . . . They have no heart, no sympathy, no reason, no conscience. They will keep no friend, unless he make himself the mirror of their purpose; they will smite and slay you, and trample your dead corpse under foot, all the more readily, if you take the first step with them, and cannot take the second, and the third, and every other step of their terribly straight path.*

THE  
  
BLITHEDALE ROMANCE.

BY  
  
NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

BOSTON:  
TICKNOR, REED, AND FIELDS.  
M DCC C LII.

6



7a

W O M A N  
IN THE  
NINETEENTH CENTURY,  
AND  
KINDRED PAPERS

RELATING TO THE  
Sphere, Condition, and Duties of Woman.

BY  
MARGARET FULLER OSSOLI,  
AUTHOR OF "ART, LITERATURE, AND THE DRAMA," "AT HOME AND  
ABROAD," "LIFE WITHOUT AND LIFE WITHIN," ETC.

EDITED BY HER BROTHER,  
ARTHUR B. FULLER.

NEW AND COMPLETE EDITION.  
WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW YORK:  
THE TRIBUNE ASSOCIATION,  
154 NASSAU STREET.  
1850.  
✓

7b

7. Margaret Fuller (1810-1850), a member of the Transcendentalist circle, was first known for her "Conversations" attended by prominent Boston women. In her life and writings, she urged her sex to expand their sphere and become more independent.



8a



8b

8. Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902), [left] along with Lucretia Mott (1793-1880), [right] was denied membership at the 1840 International Antislavery Conference. This act of discrimination contributed to her decision to organize the first women's rights convention in 1847.

# APPEAL, IN FOUR ARTICLES,

FOCUSED WITH

## A PREAMBLE

TO THE

COLORED CITIZENS OF THE WORLD,

BUT IN PARTICULAR AND VERY ESPECIALLY TO THOSE OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Written in Boston, in the State of Massachusetts, Sept. 28th, 1829.

Boston:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR

1829.

1

## Abolitionism

The antislavery impulse had its antecedents in the evangelical fervor of the 1820's and 30's. Abolitionists used the language of the Bible and the strategy of moral suasion.

1. Published in 1829, David Walker's (1785-1830) appeal urging slaves to resist their tormentors might have been the cause of his mysterious death shortly after:

*But there is a day fast approaching, when (unless there is a universal repentance on the part of the whites, which will scarcely take place, they have got to be so hardened in consequence of our blood, and so wise in their own conceit). To be plain and candid with you, Americans! I say that the day is fast approaching when there will be a greater time on the continent of America, than ever was witnessed upon this earth, since it came from the hand of its Creator. Some of you have done us so much injury that you will never be able to repent. — Your cup must be filled. — You want us for your slaves, and shall have enough of us—God is just who will give you your fill of us.*

2. Lydia Maria Child (1802-1880), in her first pamphlet on the moral evils of slavery, converted many to the cause; her *Appeal* brought an end to her successful career as a popular novelist.

3. William Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879) [left]: "I will be as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice." Wendell Phillips (1811-1884) [right]: "The history of our Union is lesson enough for every candid mind of the fatal effects of every, the least, compromise with evil."

4. *The Liberator* (1831-1865): Always independent, Garrison's *Liberator* was criticized by moderate abolitionists for its inflammatory language and its support of unpopular causes like women's rights:

*But the Liberator uses very hard language, and calls a great many bad names, and is very harsh and abusive. Precious cant, indeed! And what has been so efficacious as this hard language? Now, I am satisfied that its strength of denunciation bears no proportion to the enormous guilt of the slave system. The English language is lamentably weak and deficient, in regard to this matter. I wish its epithets were heavier—I wish it would not break so easily—I wish I could denounce slavery, and all its abettors, in terms equal to their infamy.*

("Moderation is Deliberate Barbarity,"

Address delivered in Boston, 1833)

5. Frederick Douglass (1817-1895) was the ideal spokesman for the abolitionist crusade—articulate, intelligent, dignified, and an authentic fugitive slave. He eventually asserted his independence by leaving Boston for Rochester, New York, where he published the famous newspaper, *The North Star*.

AN

## A P P E A L

IN FAVOR OF THAT CLASS

OF

AMERICANS CALLED AFRICANS.

By MRS. CHILD,

AUTHOR OF THE MOTHER'S BOOK, THE GIRL'S OWN BOOK,  
THE FRUGAL HOUSEWIFE, ETC.

"We have offended, Oh! my countrymen!  
We have offended very grievously,  
And been most tyrannous. From east to west  
A groan of accusation pierces Heaven!  
The wretched plead against us; multitudes,  
Countless and relentless, the sons of God,  
Our brethren!"

COLERIDGE.

BOSTON:

ALLEN AND TICKNOR.

1833.

2a



2b





NARRATIVE  
OF THE  
LIFE  
OF  
FREDERICK DOUGLASS,  
AN  
AMERICAN SLAVE.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

BOSTON:  
PUBLISHED AT THE ANTI-SLAVERY OFFICE,  
No. 25 CORNHILL  
1845.

5a

**THE LIBERATOR.**

VOL. V. OUR COUNTRY IS THE WORLD—OUR COUNTRYMEN ARE ALL HUMAN. NO. 49.  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1835.

|  |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <p><b>THE LIBERATOR</b><br/>IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY<br/>AND IS OWNED BY<br/><b>GARRISON AND CHAPMAN.</b><br/>WM. LLOYD GARRISON, EDITOR.</p> <p><b>TERMS.</b><br/>\$1.00 per annum in advance.<br/>\$0.50 per copy.<br/>The rate of subscription is \$1.00 per annum in advance.<br/>The rate of subscription is \$0.50 per copy.</p> | <p><b>LADIES DEPARTMENT.</b><br/>The first of the series.<br/>The first of the series.<br/>The first of the series.</p> | <p><b>INFLUENCE OF WOMAN.</b><br/>What is the woman? She does all things.<br/>What is the woman? She does all things.<br/>What is the woman? She does all things.</p> | <p><b>SLAVERY.</b><br/>[From the Boston Monitor Feb.]<br/>ABRAHAM THURMAN.<br/>No opportunity being given of adding to his long<br/>and interesting paper, we regret that we cannot<br/>insert it. We regret that we cannot insert it.</p> | <p>the interference of Congress. Our object is to<br/>bring the people of the North to the aid of the<br/>slave, and to the aid of the slave. We regret that we cannot insert it.</p> |
|--|---|---|--|---|

4



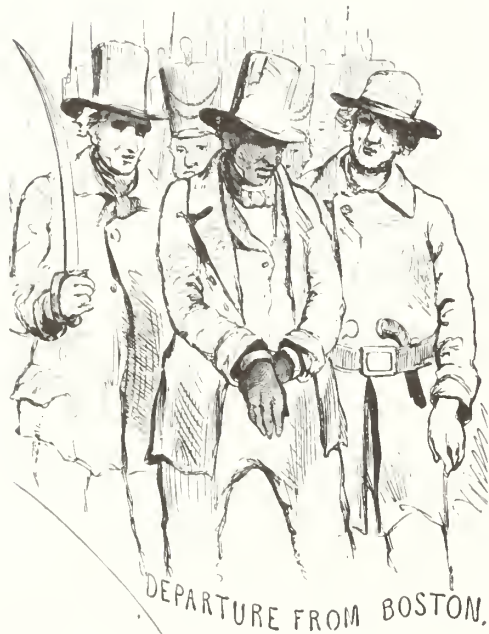
5b

6. A storm arose in Boston in 1854 over the capture of Anthony Burns, a fugitive slave. (An earlier and similar conflict took place after the capture of Thomas Sims in 1851.) Protest meetings were held at Faneuil Hall; Thomas Wentworth Higginson made an unsuccessful raid on the courthouse. Richard Henry Dana, Jr., marshaled legal defenses in Burns's case, but could not obtain his release from the slavecatchers.

7. *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, published in the midst of the furor over the Fugitive Slave Act, was an overwhelming success. Millions of Americans and Europeans were stirred by Eliza's dramatic flight to freedom.

8. Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896) was the daughter of the famous preacher Lyman Beecher. She claimed that *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was composed in one concentrated period of Divine inspiration.

9. Perhaps topping even the novel's success was the popularity of the stage version of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.



*F. H. Dana Jr*

## UNCLE TOM'S CABIN;

OR,

## LIFE AMONG THE LOWLY.

BY

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.



VOL. I.

TENTH THOUSAND.

BOSTON:

JOHN P. JEWETT & COMPANY.

CLEVELAND, OHIO:

JEWETT, PROCTOR & WORTHINGTON.

1852.







# John Brown.

ORIGIN, FORT WARREN.

Music arranged by C. B. MARSH



1 John Brown's body lies a mouldering in the grave,  
John Brown's body lies a mouldering in the grave,  
John Brown's body lies a mouldering in the grave,  
His soul's marching on!

CHORUS.  
Glory, Hally, Hallelujah! Glory, Hally,  
Hallelujah! Glory, Hally, Hallelujah!  
His soul's marching on!

2 He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord,  
He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord,  
He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord,  
His soul's marching on!

CHORUS.  
Glory, Hally, Hallelujah! &c.  
His soul's marching on!

John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back—  
John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back—  
John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back—

CHORUS.  
Glory, Hally, Hallelujah! Glory, Hally,  
Hallelujah! Glory, Hally, Hallelujah!  
Hip, Hip, Hip, Hip, Hurrah!

CHORUS.  
Glory, Hally, Hallelujah! &c.  
His soul's marching on!

4 His pet lambs will meet him on the way—  
His pet lambs will meet him on the way—  
His pet lambs will meet him on the way—  
They go marching on!

CHORUS.  
Glory, Hally, Hallelujah! &c.  
They go marching on!

5 They will hang Jeff Davis to a tree!  
They will hang Jeff Davis to a tree!  
They will hang Jeff Davis to a tree!  
As they march along!

CHORUS.  
Glory, Hally, Hallelujah! &c.  
As they march along!

6 Now, three rousing cheers for the Union!  
Now, three rousing cheers for the Union!  
Now, three rousing cheers for the Union!  
As we are marching on!

CHORUS.  
Glory, Hally, Hallelujah! Glory, Hally,  
Hallelujah! Glory, Hally, Hallelujah!  
Hip, Hip, Hip, Hip, Hurrah!

Published by C. S. HALL, 256 MAIN STREET, CHARLESTOWN, MASS.  
Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1861, by C. S. HALL, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the District of Massachusetts.

10

11

10. Several prominent Boston abolitionists gave John Brown (1800-1859) money which he used for his attack on Harper's Ferry. Emerson, Thoreau and other sympathizers wrote eulogies after his execution.

11. Called insane by many Northerners after his raid, John Brown became a martyred hero and cult figure from the Civil War onward.





12a

# ARMY LIFE IN A BLACK REGIMENT

BY  
THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON

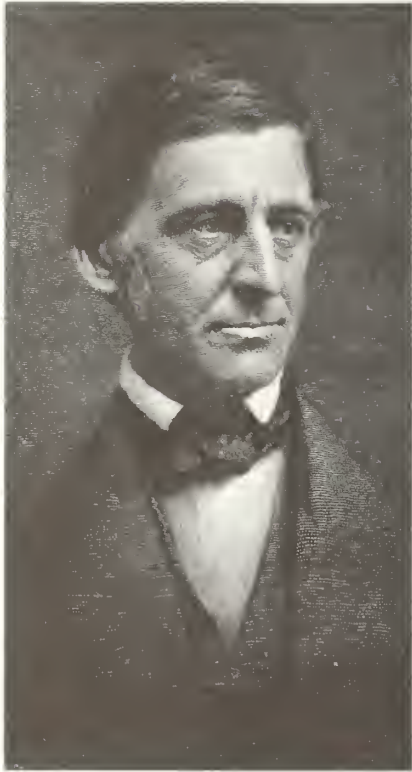
A NEW EDITION  
WITH NOTES AND A SUPPLEMENTARY  
CHAPTER



BOSTON AND NEW YORK  
HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY  
The Riverside Press, Cambridge  
MDCCC

12b

12. Thomas Wentworth Higginson (1823-1911) was the first colonel of a black regiment in the Civil War. Close observations of his band of ex-slaves stationed in the South Carolina Islands appear in *Army Life in a Black Regiment*, along with accounts of the bravery of black troops:
- The first to whom I spoke had been wounded in a small expedition after lumber, from which a party had just returned, and in which they had been under fire and had done very well. I said, pointing to his lame arm,—*
- "Did you think that was more than you bargained for, my man?"*
- His answer came promptly and stoutly,—*
- "I been a-tinking, Mas'r, dat's jess what I went for."*



1

## New England's Trinity

Three of the world's classic writers—men whose work transcends their particular time and place—lived and worked in and around Boston during the high point of the nineteenth century's "golden day." Perhaps no other city in America has been so blessed. Although Emerson, Thoreau, and Hawthorne lived in rustic Concord, they often traveled to Boston to seek inspiration, to find a foil to their genius, to exchange ideas with their contemporaries and, fortunately for us, to publish their books.

1. Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

2. *Nature* (1836), the manifesto of New England Transcendentalism, emphasized man's "belongingness" in the natural world, and called for a re-interpretation of our relationship to reality and an Adamic stance toward the universe:

*Our age is retrospective. It builds the sepulchres of the fathers. It writes biographies, histories, and criticism. The foregoing generations beheld God and nature face to face; we, through their eyes. Why should not we enjoy an original relation to the universe? Why should not we have a poetry and philosophy of insight and not of tradition, and a religion by revelation to us, and not the history of theirs?*

3. *The Dial* (1841-1844), edited by Emerson and Margaret Fuller, was a focal point for Transcendental speculation:

*The pages of this journal will be filled by contributors who possess little in common but the love of intellectual freedom, and the hope of social progress; who are united by sympathy of spirit, not by agreement in speculation; whose faith is in Divine Providence, rather than in human prescription; whose hearts are more in the future than in the past; and who trust the living soul rather than the dead letter. It will endeavor to promote the constant evolution of truth, not the petrification of opinion.*

4. The excesses of Transcendentalism lent themselves to satire, as in this Christopher Cranch caricature of Emerson's famous "transparent eyeball" passage.

5. Walt Whitman (1819-1892) boldly stamped Emerson's private praise on the binding of the second edition of *Leaves of Grass*: "I greet you at the beginning of a great career."

## NATURE.

"Nature is but an image or imitation of wisdom, the last thing of the soul; nature being a thing which doth only do, but not know."  
PLATINUS.

BOSTON:  
JAMES MUNROE AND COMPANY  
M DCCC XXXVI.

2

## THE DIAL: PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON MAGAZINE

FOR

LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY, AND RELIGION

VOLUME I.

BOSTON:  
WEEKS, JORDAN, AND COMPANY,  
111 WASHINGTON STREET  
LONDON  
WILLY AND PUTNAM, 17 PATERNOSTER ROW  
M DCCC XLII.

3



"Standing on the bare ground, — my head  
bathed by the blithe air, & uplifted into  
infinite space, — all mean egotism  
vanishes. I become a transparent  
Eyeball!" *Nature*, p. 13.



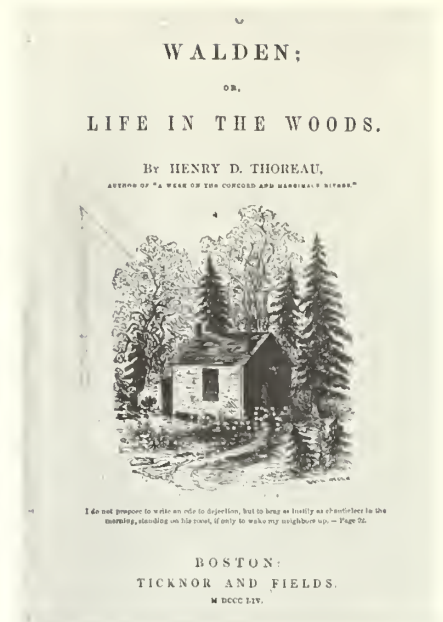
5a

5b

# Leaves of Grass.

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK,  
1856.





7

6. Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)
7. *Walden*, practically ignored in its own day, has become a vital text in our day. Its critique of a commercial and industrial society rings truer than ever, and its solution, a simplified life, seems ever more desirable to many Americans:  
*I learned this, at least, by my experiment; that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with success unexpected in common hours . . . . In proportion as he simplifies his life, the laws of the universe will appear less complex, and solitude will not be solitude, nor poverty poverty, nor weakness weakness. If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.*
8. "I have never felt lonesome or the least oppressed by a sense of solitude . . . ." *Walden Pond* in Thoreau's day.
9. "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation." *Bell Time in Lawrence, Massachusetts*, in Thoreau's day.

6



8



9





10

PH. L.

# SCARLET LETTER

A ROMANCE.

BY

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

BOSTON:  
TICKNOR, REED, AND FIELDS  
1850.

11



12

10. Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)

11. *The Scarlet Letter* imaginatively apprehended Boston's Puritan past and reintroduced a sense of "sin" into a sinless age:

*The founders of a new colony, whatever Utopia of human virtue and happiness they might originally project, have invariably recognized it among their earliest practical necessities to allot a portion of the virgin soil as a cemetery, and another portion as the site of a prison. In accordance with this rule, it may safely be assumed that the forefathers of Boston had built the first prison-house, somewhere in the vicinity of Cornhill, almost as seasonably as they marked out the first burial-ground, on Isaac Johnson's lot . . .*

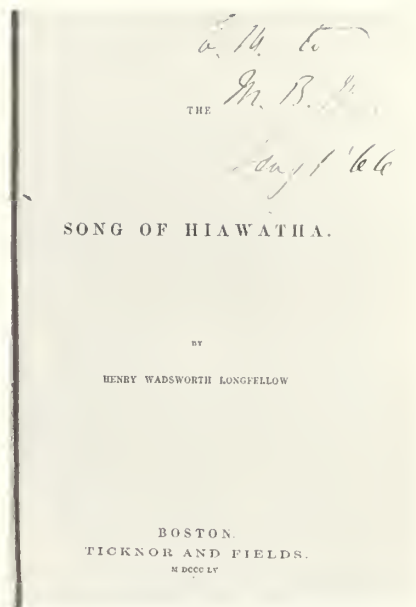
12. The house of the seven gables offered a fittingly ancient and macabre setting for Hawthorne's romance of the same name:

*Halfway down a bystreet of one of our New England towns stands a rusty wooden house, with seven acutely peaked gables, facing towards various points of the compass, and a huge, clustered chimney in the midst . . . The aspect of this venerable mansion has always affected me like a human countenance, bearing the traces not merely of outward storm and sunshine, but expressive, also, of the long lapse of mortal life, and accompanying vicissitudes that have passed within . . .*





1



2

## The Fireside Poets

While lacking the world stature in our day of Emerson, Thoreau, and Hawthorne, these poets were probably more famous and certainly more widely read in their own time. Generations of school children have memorized their lines and drawn a conception of "the poet" from these comfortable nineteenth-century gentlemen. These authors lacked the dramatic personal intensity of a Melville or a Whitman, an Emerson or a Thoreau; each tended to see himself as a gifted amateur, whose "real" job lay elsewhere—as a teacher, editor, physician, social reformer.

1. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882) in his study.

2. Longfellow, ardent student of languages, imitated the metre of the Finnish folk epic, the *Kalevala*, in his own attempt at an American epic:  
*Ye who love a nation's legends,  
 Love the ballads of a people,  
 That like voices from afar off  
 Call to us to pause and listen,  
 Speak in tones so plain and childlike,  
 Scarcely can the ear distinguish  
 Whether they are sung or spoken;—  
 Listen to this Indian legend,  
 To this Song of Hiawatha!*



3

3. James Russell Lowell (1819-1891) was an accomplished humorist.

4. In *The Biglow Papers*, Lowell used Yankee dialect humor to attack American expansionism in the Mexican War:  
*Mister Eddyter:—Our Hosea wuz down to Boston last week and he see a cruetin Sarjunt a struttin round as popler as a hen with 1 chicking, with 2 fellers a drummin and fifin arter him like all nater . . . .*

5. Lowell's *A Fable for Critics* with its thumping rhymes thumped some of the literary egos of the period:  
*There comes Poe, with his raven,  
 like Barnaby Rudge,  
 Three fifths of him genius and two  
 fifths sheer fudge,  
 Who talks like a book of iambs  
 and pentameters,  
 In a way to make people of common  
 sense damn metres,  
 Who has written some things quite  
 the best of their kind,  
 But the heart somehow seems all  
 squeezed out by the mind . . . .*

MELIBEUS-HIPPONAX.

THE

**Biglow Papers,**

EDITED,

WITH AN INTRODUCTION, NOTES, GLOSSARY,  
AND COPIOUS INDEX,

BY

HOMER WILBUR, A. M.,

PASTOR OF THE FIRST CHURCH IN JARLON, AND (PROSPECTIVE) MEMBER OF  
MANY LITERARY, LEARNED AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES,  
(for which see page v.)

The ploughman's whistle, or the tithing note,  
Finds more respect than great Apollo's ode.  
Quercus's Emblemata, p. 11. n. 8.  
Margaritha, mundi porcina calcitra, on, stiliqua accipe.  
Juc. Chr. Pul. ad Pub. Leg. 11.

CAMBRIDGE:

PUBLISHED BY GEORGE NICHOLS.

NEW YORK:

GEORGE P. PUTNAM, 155 BROADWAY.

1848.

4

A

**FABLE FOR CRITICS;**

OR

*Revue*

*long time the reader's first fancy may  
an old fashioned title page,  
as presents a tabular view of the volume's contents—*

A GLANCE  
AT A FEW OF OUR LITERARY PROGENIES  
(Mrs. Malaprop's word.)

FROM  
THE TUB OF DIOGENES.

THAT

A SERIES OF JOKES

By A Wonderful Owl,

*superior himself to a volcano-dabul, full of spirit and grace  
on the top of the tub,*

SET FORTH IN  
*October the 21st day, in the year '48*

BY  
G. P. PUTNAM, BROADWAY.

5

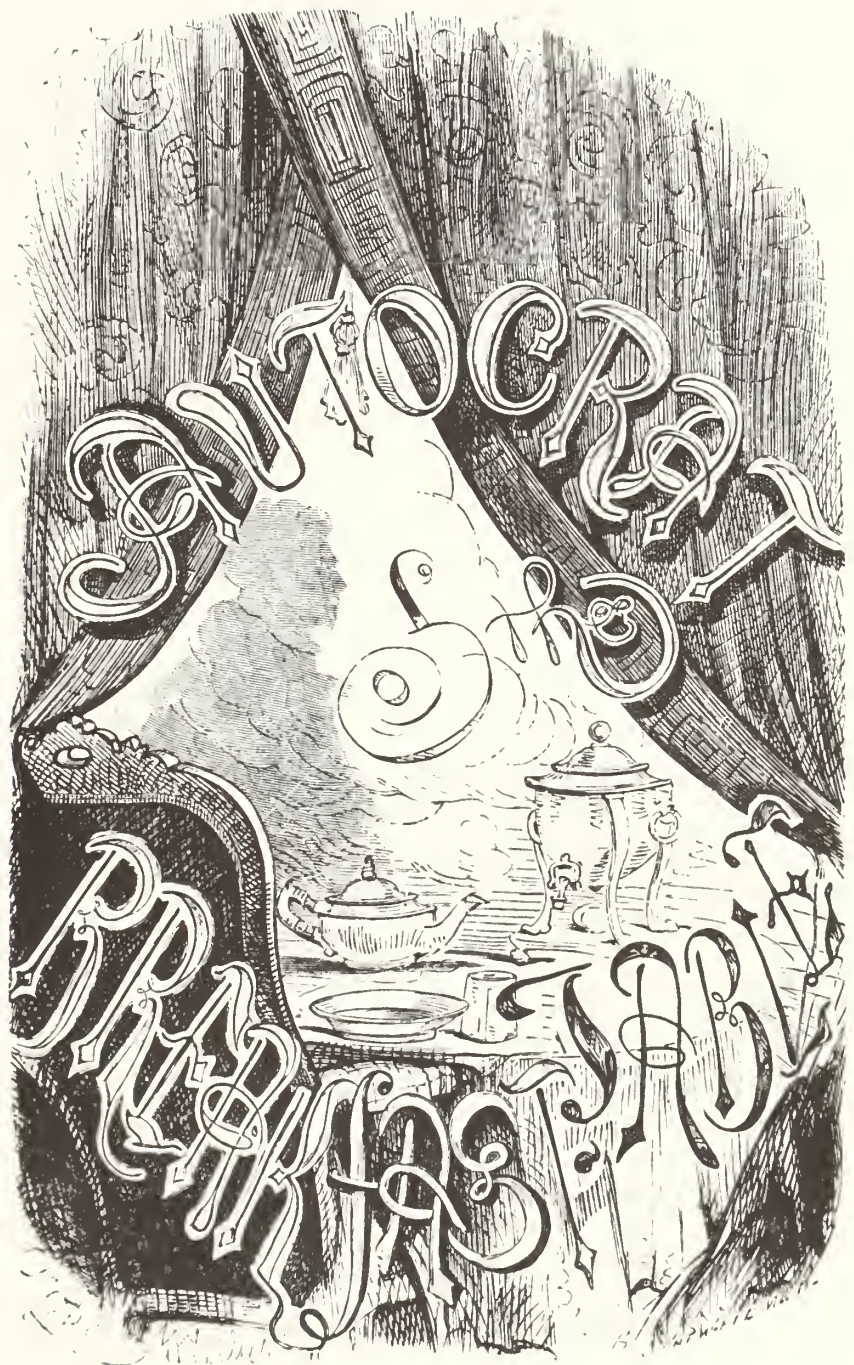


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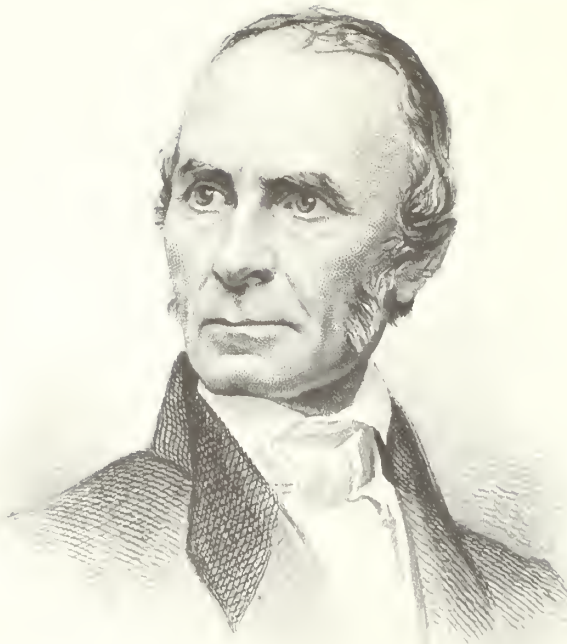
6. Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894) is remembered best for his verses on "Old Ironsides" which helped save the U.S.S. *Constitution*, the first time it was threatened with destruction:  
*O better that her shattered hulk  
 Should sink beneath the wave;  
 Her thunders shook the mighty deep,  
 And there should be her grave;  
 Nail to the mast her holy flag,  
 Set every threadbare sail,  
 And give her to the god of storms,  
 The lightning and the gale!*

7. The Autocrat catches the wit and wisdom, the play of intellect and privilege, of Boston Brahmin culture: *Here the company laughed a good deal, and the old gentleman who sits opposite said: "That's it! That's It!" I continued, for I was in a talking vein. As to clever people's hating each other, I think a little extra talent does sometimes make people jealous. They become irritated by perpetual attempts and failures and it hurts their tempers and dispositions. Unpretending mediocrity is good, and genius is glorious; but a weak flavor of genius in an essentially common person is detestable.*

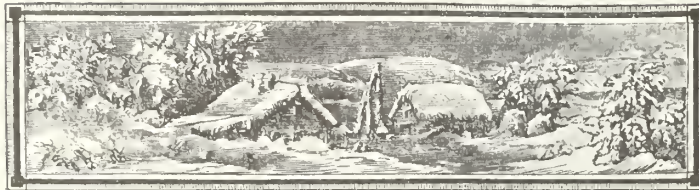
7







8. John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892) stands somewhat apart from the rest having been born to a poor Quaker farm family.
9. No better picture of nineteenth-century New England rural culture could be found than *Snow-bound: Shut in from all the world without, We sat the clean-winged hearth about, Content to let the north-wind roar In baffled rage at pane and door, While the red logs before us beat The frost-line back with tropic heat . . .*
10. Richard Henry Dana (1815-1882). Although not a fireside poet *per se* Dana represents the epitome of "white-glove" Brahmin culture.



## SNOW-BOUND.



HE sun that brief December day  
Rose cheerless over hills of gray,  
And, darkly circled, gave at noon  
A sadder light than waning moon.

11. Dana's two-year experience as a common sailor in the California trade inspired him to compose a minor American masterpiece, but nothing similar was ever to come from his pen:  
*I have been obliged occasionally to use strong and coarse expressions, and in some instances to give scenes which may be painful to nice feelings; but I have very carefully avoided doing so whenever I have not felt them essential to giving the true character of a scene. My design is, and it is this which has induced me to publish the book, to present the life of a common sailor at sea as it really is—the light and the dark together.*



10

TWO YEARS  
BEFORE THE MAST.

A

PERSONAL NARRATIVE OF  
LIFE AT SEA.

—Crowded in the rank and narrow ship,—  
Housed on the wild sea with wild usages,—  
What'er in the inland dices the land conceals  
Of fair and exquisite, O! nothing, nothing,  
Do we behold of that in our rude voyage.  
Cousin's WA. LUNSTON.

NEW-YORK:  
HARPER & BROTHERS—82 CLIFF-STREET.  
1840.

11

## Children's Books

New theories of childhood development and early education inspired the publishing of countless moral tales and mass-produced anthologies aimed at shaping the impressionistic mind of the child. Throughout the nineteenth century children's literature was a money-maker for publishing houses.

1. How the Bible tract societies reached the child.
2. Peter Parley (a pseudonym for Samuel Goodrich) wrote a popular series of heavily instructive and moral tales with attractive woodcuts.
3. Oliver Optic (William T. Adams, 1822-1897). After the Civil War, Juveniles were aimed more at children's interests. Oliver Optic serial novels and magazines featured sensational adventure stories.
4. Louisa May Alcott (1832-1889). *Little Women* was one of the all-time best-sellers. Its characters were based on Louisa's family life. Bronson Alcott, her eccentric father, is conspicuously absent from the dramatic content; the father of the family is an army chaplain away in the war.

### EARLY PIETY,

OR  
MEMOIRS OF CHILDREN,

EMINENTLY SERIOUS,

INTERSPERSED WITH

*Familiar Dialogues, Emblematical Pictures,  
and Hymns upon various occasions.*

"Those that seek me early shall find me."—Prov. viii, 17.



BOSTON:  
PUBLISHED BY SAMUEL T. ARMSTRONG,  
AND CROCKER & BREWSTER,  
No. 50, Cornhill.  
1821.

FORBES LIBRARY

1a

### PEARLS

FOR THE LITTLE ONES

A Series of Stories from real Child-life.

By Mrs. MARY JANE PHILLIPS.

FORBES LIBRARY  
NORTHAMPTON  
MASSACHUSETTS

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,  
95 CORNHILL, BOSTON.

C18587

1b



PETER PARLEY'S

JUVENILE TALES.

A NEW-YEAR'S PRESENT FOR CHILDREN

BOSTON CARTER & HENDEL  
1830.

2





3

4a



4b



They all drew to the fire, mother in the big chair, with Beth at her feet; Meg and Amy perched on either arm of the chair, and Jo leaning on the back. — PAGE 12.

## LITTLE WOMEN

OR,

MEG, JO, BETH AND AMY

BY LOUISA M. ALCOTT

ILLUSTRATED BY MAY ALCOTT

PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON

BOSTON  
ROBERTS BROTHERS  
1869

5. Horatio Alger (1834-1899). There was more luck than pluck in Alger's success stories. The hero's rise to junior executive was the result of a chance meeting with a rich businessman who immediately recognized his moral worth.

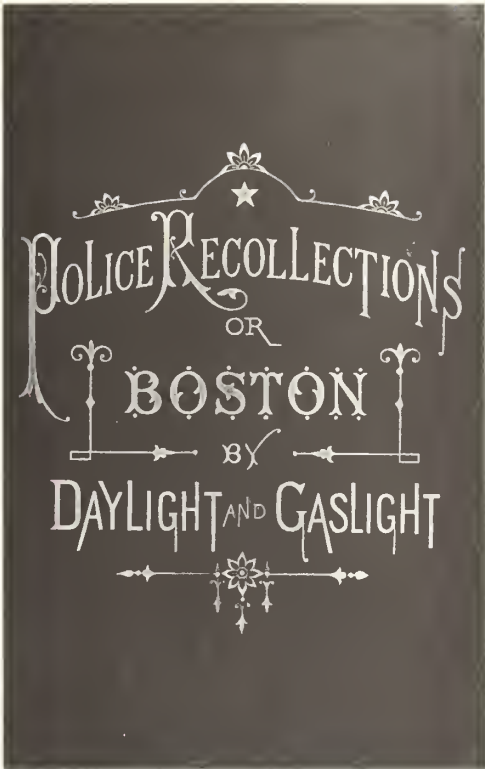




Popular Literature

The growth of the middle class, the extension of free public education, the establishment of subscription libraries, and technological advances in publishing, widened the market for books of practical and social instruction and for sentimental novels.

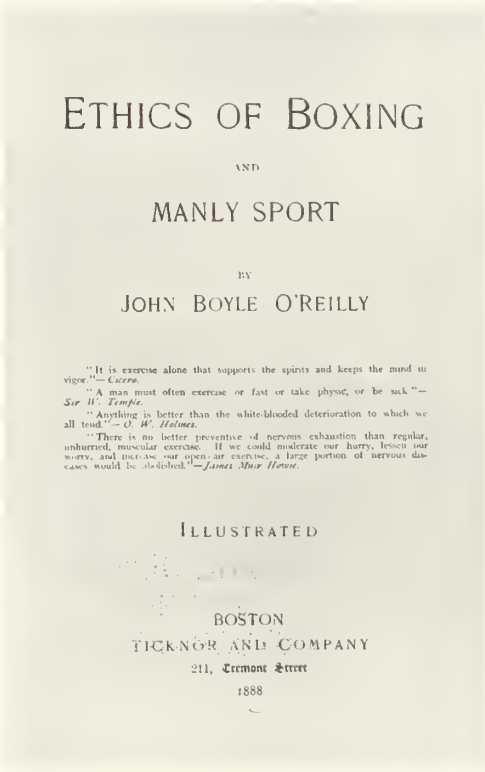
- 1. Accounts of the corruptness of urban life were a warning to the innocent farm girl and boy that the city was an unhealthy place.
- 2. John Boyle O'Reilly's *The Ethics of Manly Boxing*, a survey of male sporting activities, which tied physical culture to moral culture.



1a



1b

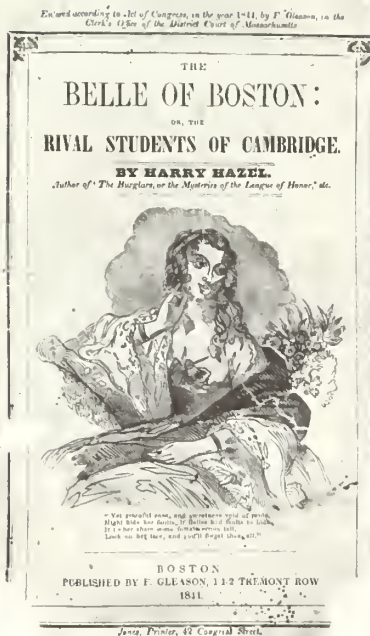


2a



2b





AMERICAN  
Fashionable Letter Writer,  
ORIGINAL AND SELECTED,  
CONTAINING A VARIETY OF  
LETTERS

ON  
BUSINESS, LOVE, COURTSHIP, MARRIAGE,  
RELATIONSHIP, FRIENDSHIP, ETC.,  
WITH  
FORMS OF COMPLIMENTARY CARDS,  
TO THE WHOLE ARE PREFIXED  
DIRECTIONS FOR LETTER WRITING,  
AND  
RULES FOR COMPOSITION.

BOSTON:  
G. W. COTTRELL.  
36 CORNHILL,

3. In many popular novels, sexual overtones were a key attraction, though moral purity always triumphed in the end.

4. *The Fashionable Letter Writer* reflects the growing demand for handbooks on polite society from the young ladies of the expanding middle class.

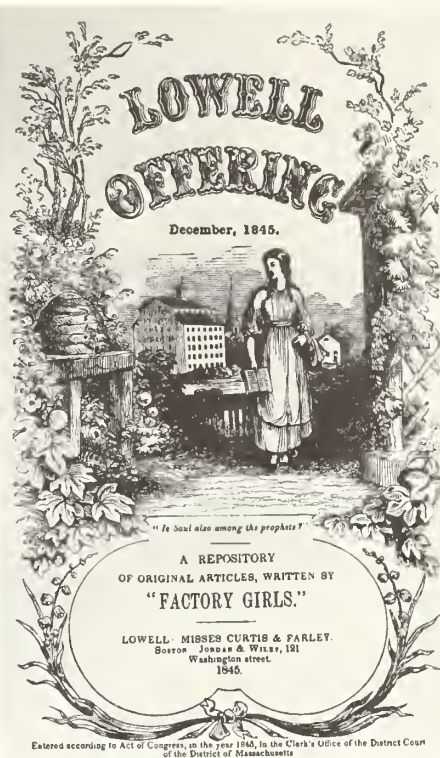
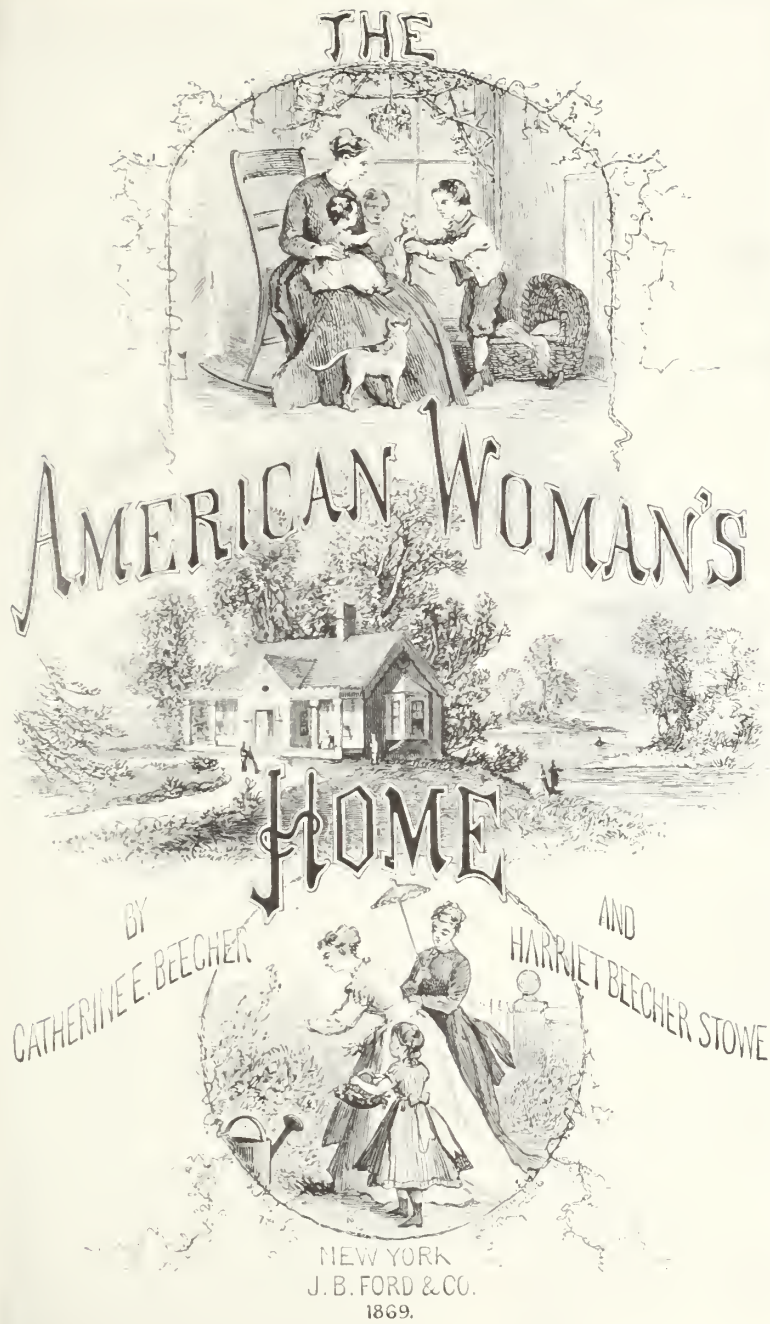
5. Catherine Beecher's (1800-1878) treatise on domestic economy elevated woman's place in the home to that of moral guardian of her family and of society at large:

*The success of democratic institutions, as is conceded by all, depends upon the intellectual and moral character of the mass of the people . . . . The mother forms the character*

*of the future man; the sister bends the fibres that are hereafter to be the forest tree; the wife sways the heart, whose energies may turn for good or for evil the destinies of a nation.*

6. *Lowell Offering* (1840-1845). In this company-sponsored magazine, the mill girls adopted the nineteenth-century ideals of womanhood—piety, purity, and domesticity. Their stories, poems, and articles would not have seemed out of place in ladies journals of the day.

7. As manufactured articles increased and women's importance in the home economy diminished, ladies magazines thrived to fill her leisure time and lonely hours.





1

**Boston Theatre**  
THAYER & TOMERSON PROPRIETORS  
 L. R. SHEWELL MANAGER

COMMENCING  
**MONDAY, MARCH 15th, 1875,**  
 ENGAGEMENT OF THE EMINENT TRAGEDIAN.

**EDWIN BOOTH**

LIMITED SEASON,  
WITH THE SUPPORT OF  
**L. R. SHEWELL**  
AND THE  
**EXCELLENT DRAMATIC COMPANY!**

MR. BOOTH'S SELECTIONS INCLUDE

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| SHYLOCK,         | RICHELIEU,    |
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| THE APOSTATE.    | THE STRANGER, |
| HAMLET,          | BRUTUS,       |
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2



# Theatre

Despite Puritan suppression of “false representations” on the stage in earlier centuries—for example, the 1750 “Act to Prevent Stage Plays and other Theatrical Entertainments”—Boston developed a vigorous theatre in the nineteenth century. Both legitimate stage and melodrama flourished. Probably more people of all classes saw Shakespeare played live in the 1800’s than do in our own day.

1. The Federal Street Theatre, designed by Charles Bulfinch, was the city’s first (1794).
2. Edwin Booth (1833-1893), brother of the notorious John Wilkes Booth, was a great favorite in Boston and owned a home here.
3. Forced by her father’s death to earn a living, Charlotte Cushman (1816-1876), a Boston girl, immortalized Shakespeare for many American audiences.
4. Charlotte Cushman became an international celebrity.

3



4

W 11 THEATRE-ROYAL, EDINBURGH. IN 2

**24 NIGHT OF THE WINTER SEASON.**

Second Appearance in this City of the Celebrated

**MISS CUSHMAN**

ENGAGED FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY,

**MR. MACKAY**

THIS EVENING AT EIGHT O'CLOCK, WILL BE GIVEN THE FIRST

**MACBETH.**

HALF-PAST SEVEN TO THE CELEBRATED OVERSIGHT OF THE HOUSE OF SCOTLAND.

THE CELEBRATED OPERA POLKA BY MR. AND MRS. G. HUNT.

**CELEBRATED COMPOSER, JULLIEN.**

MOST POPULAR QUADRILLES, WALTZES, POLKAS, & GALLOPS.

THE CELEBRATED FAN IN THE PRINCE OF MONTENAPOLÉ.

THE CELEBRATED WALTZ BY COMPOSER AND PERFORMER BY JULLIEN.

**THE CLEIKUM INN**

POPULAR PAS STYRIEN BY MR. AND MRS. G. HUNT.

**HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE.**

THE CELEBRATED OVERSIGHT OF THE HOUSE OF SCOTLAND.

MISS CUSHMAN'S PERFORMANCE OF BIANCA.

CELEBRATED MISS HELEN FAUCIT.

MR. CHAS. MATHEWS & MADAME VESTRIS

MR. BENJAMIN WEBSTER.

MADAME CELESTE.

MR. MACREADY.

A PANTOMIME COMPANY HAS ALSO BEEN ENGAGED FOR CHRISTMAS.



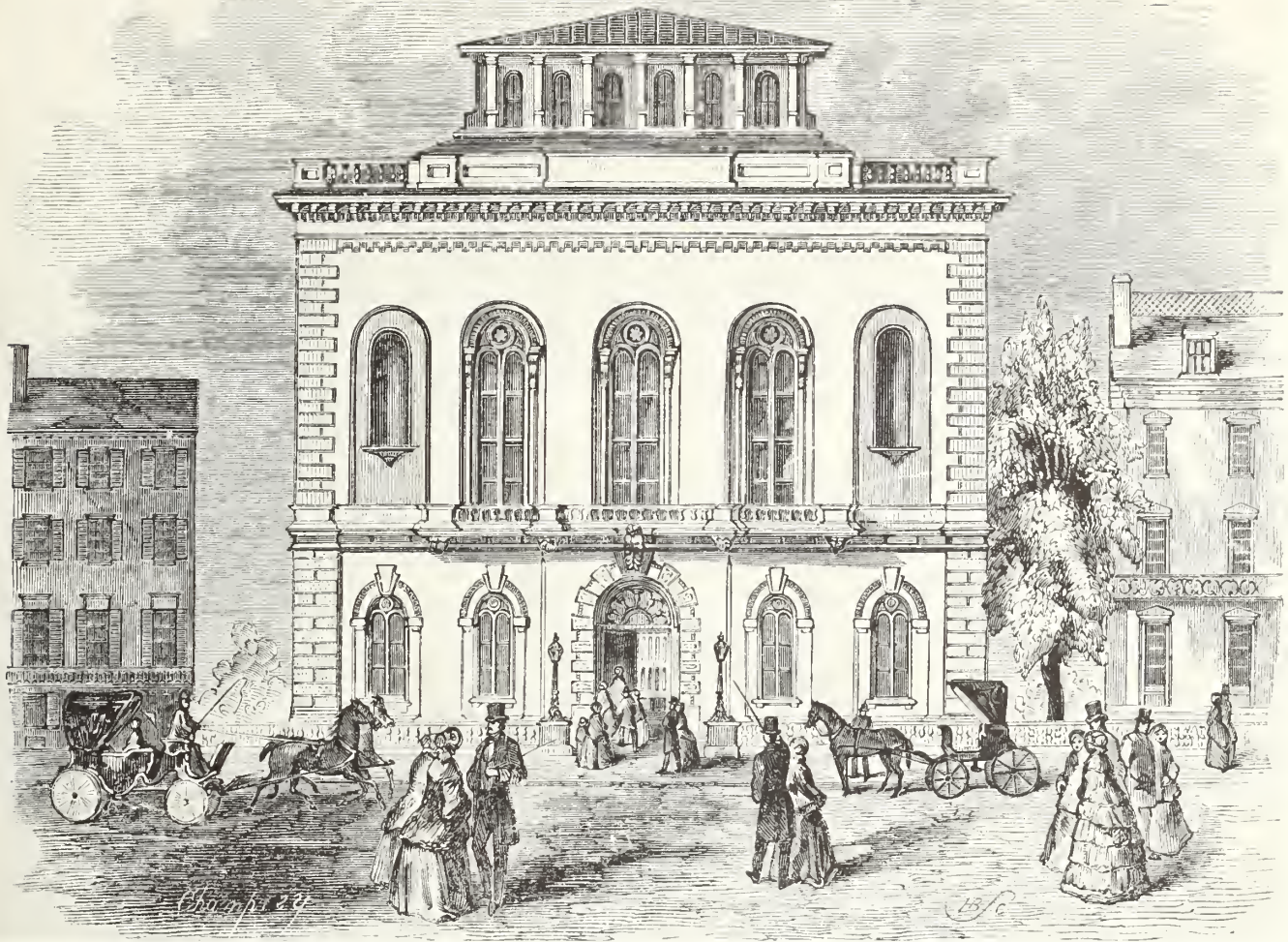
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6

5. The Boston Museum may have been the most famous of the great nineteenth-century halls.
6. James Herne (1839-1901) pioneered in socially concerned avant-garde realistic theatre. He wrote, acted in and directed his own plays in his own theatre.





1

## The People's Palace

The Boston Public Library—the first in the nation in a large city—was founded in 1852 to serve the needs of the leaders and the masses in a growing democratic society and to “diffuse through our society that knowledge without which we have no right to hope that the condition of those who are to come after us will be as happy and prosperous as our own” (1852 *Trustees Report*). The gratitude of generations of students, for whom the Public Library was their *only* library, is ample testimony to how well the Library has fulfilled the founders’ dream.

1. The Library’s first permanent home on Boylston Street opposite the Common, opened in 1858.





2

2. Charles Follen McKim designed the present Renaissance palace for Copley Square; it was opened in 1895.
3. Bacchante: A vigorous controversy over the propriety of placing this statue in the courtyard of the public library led to a committee investigation, headed by Charles Eliot Norton, and the removal of this affront to morals.

3



4. Bates Hall, the main reading room, early in the twentieth century.

5. The Boston Athenaeum, ca. 1900. A counterpart to the Public Library has been the private collection of the Athenaeum. Along with the libraries of Harvard and other universities, these collections have made Boston the most library-rich area in the nation.

6. Youth in children's reading room, early 1900's.

4



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3

THE  
RISE OF SILAS LAPHAM

BY  
WILLIAM D. HOWELLS  
AUTHOR OF "A MODERATE ESTIMATE," "A WOMAN'S REASON," ETC.



BOSTON  
TICKNOR AND COMPANY  
1885



# The New Bostonians

Though Boston had taken second place to New York as a commercial center and publishing hub, writers like William Dean Howells (1837-1920), Hamlin Garland (1860-1940), and Bret Harte (1836-1902), all came to this cultural Mecca from the mid-west. As Boston's worldly status declined, its symbolic status seemed to increase.

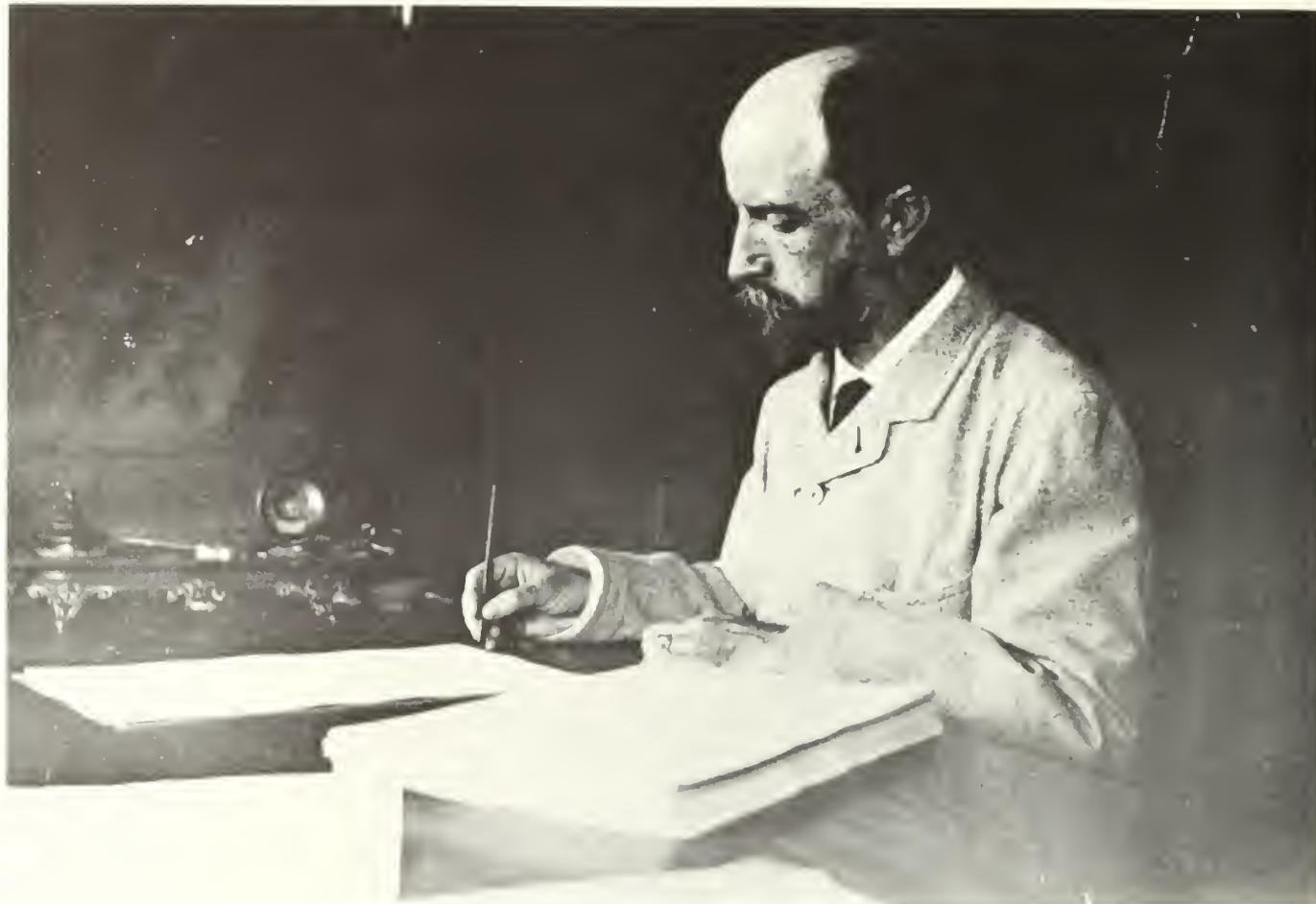
- 1. A birds-eye view of Boston in the latter half of the nineteenth century shows the filling of Back Bay and construction on the "new land."
- 2. When William Dean Howells came to Cambridge in 1866, he was an outsider, a journalist from a small town in Ohio. Within five years, he was at the center of Boston culture as editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*. Until his departure to New York in 1891, he published nearly every author of note and brought to the Boston literary establishment the works of many non-Easterners, such as Mark Twain, Hamlin Garland, and Bret Harte.
- 3. Silas Lapham was a new social type in American fiction, the businessman who came from obscure origins and owed no allegiance to the social and cultural ideals of the old dominant class.
- 4. The South End: The Lapham residence was in a square like this. Once a neighborhood with a substantial middle-class population, it was already in decline when the family moved there.
- 5. Back Bay: While the Coreys, Lapham's betters, remained on Beacon Hill, many of the sons and daughters of these old established families took up residence in this fashionable area. Lapham decided to pave the way for his daughters' entrance into society by building on Beacon Street, one of the most desirable spots in the Back Bay.

4



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2a

2b



THE  
BOSTONIANS

A Novel

BY  
HENRY JAMES

London and New York  
MACMILLAN AND CO.  
1886

## Brahmin's Retreat

By the time Henry Adams (1838-1918) reached maturity, the Brahmins had lost their primacy in culture and politics. Adams moved to Washington to be near the physical center of government, though he was never asked to become a part of it. Henry James (1843-1916) took up residence in England.

1. In his autobiography, the *Education of Henry Adams*, he reflected on the vast gap between the traditions of his father and grandfather and his experience in modern America:

*The world cared little for decency . . . .  
The political dilemma was as clear in  
1870 as it was likely to be in 1970.  
The system of 1789 had broken down,  
and with it the eighteenth-century  
fabric of a priori, or moral, princi-  
ples.*

2. In *The Bostonians*, Henry James, viewing the decay of the city from Olive Chancellor's window on the Charles River, suggests that Boston's glorious past is over:

*The western windows of Olive's drawing room, looking over the water, took in the red sunsets of winter; the long low bridge that crawled, on its staggering posts, across the Charles; the casual patches of ice and snow; the desolate suburban horizons, peeled and made bald by the rigor of the season; the general hard, cold void of the prospect; the extrusion, at Charlestown, at Cambridge, of a few chimneys and steeples, straight, sordid tubes of factories and engine-shops, or spare, heavenward finger of the New England meeting house. There was something inexorable in the poverty of the scene, shameful in the meanness of its details . . . .*



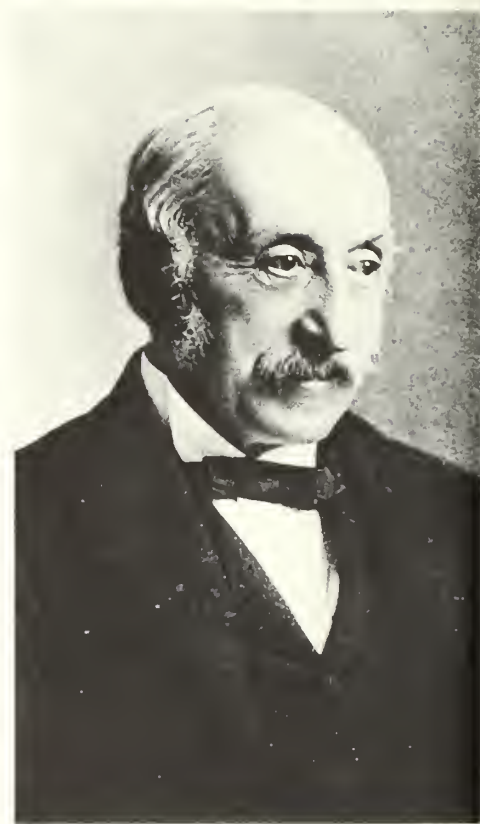
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3. William James (1842-1910), who chose to remain near Boston, in his philosophy unites two threads of New England culture: the rational and scientific strand (the mind) and the intuitive emotional experience (the heart). William, Henry, and their brilliant sister Alice, all children of Henry, Sr., himself a well-known mystic philosopher and friend of Emerson, although not native Bostonians, yet continue the line of gifted, Boston-centered families.





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2

## Custodians of Culture

1. Charles Eliot (1834-1926). Editor of the famous five-foot shelf of books, and president of Harvard. Working men and women were supposed to avail themselves of these collections in their limited free time and become cultivated individuals:

*I hope that many readers who are obliged to give eight or ten hours a day to the labors through which they earn their livelihood will use the Harvard Classics, and particularly young men*

*and women whose early education was cut short, and who must therefore reach the standing of a cultivated man or woman through the pleasurable devotion of a few minutes a day through many years to the reading of good literature.*

*(Preface to the Harvard Classics.)*

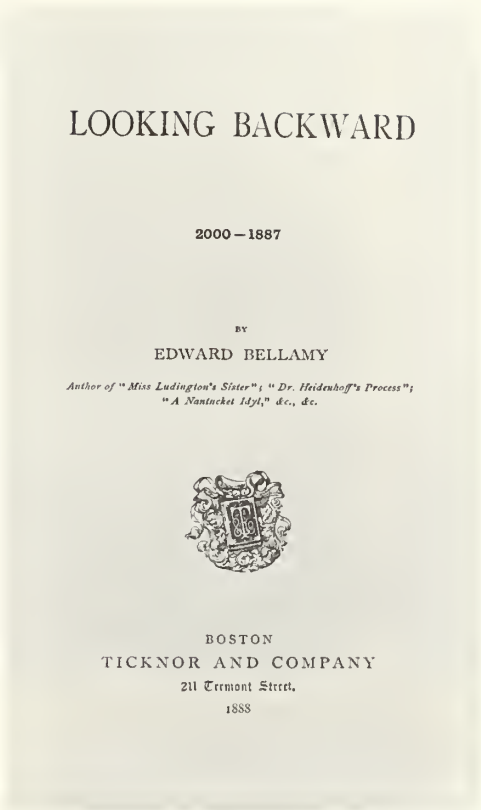
2. Charles Eliot Norton (1827-1908). Popular Harvard professor of Art History, translator of Dante, who promoted closer ties with European culture. He was probably the most important arbiter of elegant taste in the late nineteenth century.

Society's Exiles

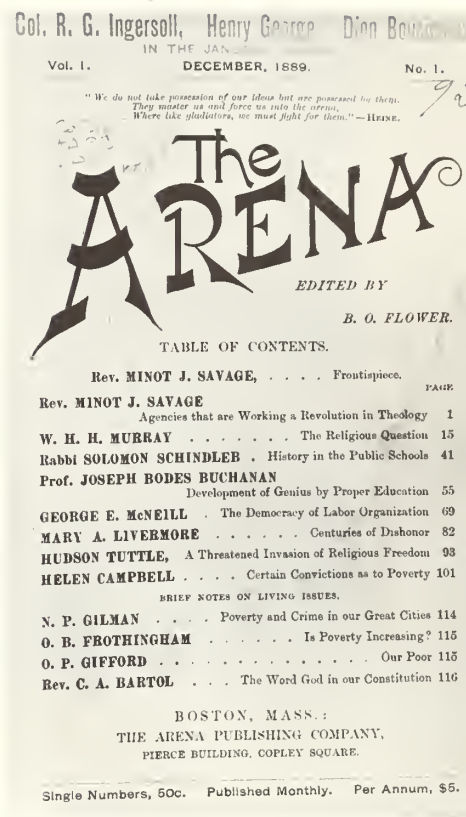
By the late nineteenth century, Thomas Jefferson's vision of a republic of virtuous yeoman farmers seemed centuries away. Cheap land was nearly impossible to obtain years before the official closing of the frontier in 1890. "Go west young man" was not an alternative for the poor city laborer or for the new immigrant who also wanted a piece of the American Dream. In the midst of tributes to American progress and wealth, the average citizen looked uneasily at crowded cities, violent labor conflicts, and corrupt politicians controlled by the robber barons. A spate of Utopian novels captured the public imagination; the America of the future was to be a cooperative commonwealth; the nineteenth century was the Age of Accumulation, called the land of Egoria in Howells' novel, *A Traveler from Altruria*.

1. Edward Bellamy's (1850-1898) immensely popular Utopian novel contrasts the strangled souls of contemporary Boston with the perfect Socialist state of Boston in the year 2000: *It was indeed the nineteenth century to which I had awaked . . . A dozen times between my door and Washington Street I had to stop and pull myself together, such power had been in that vision of the Boston of the future to make the real Boston strange . . . the glaring disparities in the dress and condition of the men and women who brushed each other on the sidewalks shocked me at every step, and yet more the entire indifference which the prosperous showed to the plight of the unfortunate.*

2. B. O. Flower's study of Boston's slums and his Christian reform journal, *The Arena*, tried to awaken the people to the evil effects of a society based on competition rather than cooperation and Christianity.



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3. Hanover Alley in the North End.

4. While the charity worker of the past left the slums and went home to Beacon Hill, believing that the poor had benefited from their brief exposure to a finer being, the settlement worker moved into the community and asserted the reciprocal advantages of contact between people of different social backgrounds. Beyond the transformation of the individual, settlement volunteers aimed at the rehabilitation of the neighborhood, "to foster and sustain the home under tenement conditions." Robert Archey Woods, standing front right.





5

5. John Boyle O'Reilly (1844-1880), Irish Nationalist who became editor of the *Boston Pilot* (1869). His novel, *Moondyne*, based on his experiences in British prisons, exposed the tyranny of English rule.

6. Mary Antin (1881-1949), Russian Jewish immigrant, sensitively portrays the experience of emigrating to an alien culture:

*My father, in his ambition to make Americans of us, was rather headlong and strenuous in his methods. To my mother, on the eve of the departure for the New World, he wrote boldly that progressive Jews did not spend their days praying, and he urged her to leave her wig in Polotzk, as the first step of progress.*

7. Robert Archey Woods (1865-1925) opened South End settlement house in Boston (1895). *City Wilderness* was the first published scientific study of a poverty area in America.



MANHET AND FETTER

6

7

## THE CITY WILDERNESS

### A SETTLEMENT STUDY

BY  
RESIDENTS AND ASSOCIATES OF THE  
SOUTH END HOUSE

EDITED BY  
ROBERT A. WOODS  
HEAD OF THE HOUSE

SOUTH END  
BOSTON



BOSTON AND NEW YORK  
HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY  
The Riverside Press, Cambridge

## THE PROMISED LAND

BY MARY ANTIN

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS  
FROM PHOTOGRAPHS



BOSTON AND NEW YORK  
HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY  
The Riverside Press, Cambridge  
1912

## Boston Enters the Twentieth Century

A new breed of graduates came out of Harvard in the twentieth century. John Reed and Walter Lippmann were typical of the new rebellious intellectuals who flocked to New York's Greenwich Village, where experiments in art, free love, and socialism flourished. Boston, a stronghold of Victorian morality and conservative religion, resisted these changes in life-style, which seemed to threaten fundamental beliefs in sex and class.



### A LITTLE BOOK FOR IMMIGRANTS IN BOSTON

PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR AMERICANISM  
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON



CITY OF BOSTON  
PRINTING DEPARTMENT  
1911

1. After World War I there was a sense of urgency in efforts to break the immigrant of his old country ways. Guides to health, cleanliness, and thrift like the *Handbook for Immigrants*, and classes in patriotism were the soft side of Americanization. The shriller voices were heard in the raids against socialists and pacifists, who had been opposed to the war; hundreds of immigrants were deported after the Palmer raids of 1919. Immigration restriction of the 20's was the keystone of 100% Americanization.

2. Sacco and Vanzetti protest march: For the intellectual left, these two obscure anarchists were scapegoats for the "frock-coat mob howling for blood." Perhaps the most eloquent words came not from their defenders, but from Vanzetti himself:

*If it had not been for these things, I might have live out my life talking at street corners to scorning men. I might have die, unmarked, unknown, a failure. Now we are not a failure. This is our career and our triumph. Never in our full live could we hope to do such work for tolerance, for joostice, for man's onderstanding of man as now we do by accidnet. Our words—our lives—our pains—nothing! The taking of our lives—lives of a good shoemaker and a poor fish-peddler—all! That last moment belongs to us—that agony is our triumph.*



# FACING THE CHAIR

STORY OF THE AMERICANIZATION  
OF TWO FOREIGNBORN WORKMEN

by

JOHN DOS PASSOS

PUBLISHED BY  
SACCO-VANZETTI DEFENSE COMMITTEE  
BOSTON, MASS.

1927

C



4

3. John Dos Passos (1896-1970), was one of the early passionate defenders of Sacco and Vanzetti; he stood vigil at the Boston Common along with many other artists and writers during the eve of the execution.

4. Upton Sinclair came from California to challenge the legal ban in Boston against his book *Oil*. Ostensibly censored as "immoral," the novel is an expose of the corrupt Harding administration.

5. Amy Lowell (1874-1925), atypical of the proper Bostonian Lowells, with her cigars and her earthy manner, became one of the exponents of the Imagist School of poetry. In her biography of John Keats (1925) she drew upon her extensive collection of Keats material, at that time the "best in the United States."



5



6. George Santayana (1863-1952), was critical of ivory-tower American philosophers who had lost the passionate intensity of their Puritan ancestors. He coined the phrase "the genteel tradition" in his attack on the sterile moralism of the nineteenth century.
7. The Federal Writers' Project gave employment and hope to hundreds of would-be authors: *The New England Renaissance of the 1840's had coincided with an upsurge of organization among the workers, and in the social, economic, and political ferment of that decade many writers of the "golden age" were directly concerned. The direction of the Massachusetts labor movement in 1937 was perhaps symptomatic of what might occur in literature—not as cause and effect, but as twin manifestations of the same forces. Critics dared predict a new literary renaissance in New England—unless war again intervened to blast it at the roots.*
8. James Michael Curley (1874-1958): The Peoples Leader.
9. Edwin O'Connor (1918-1968) wrote a novel about the passing of an old style of ward politics. The author's claim that all similarities in character are coincidental did not prevent the public from identifying the energetic and appealing hero, Frank Skeffington, with Mayor James Michael Curley.

6

## THE LAST PURITAN

A MEMOIR  
In the Form of a Novel

BY  
GEORGE SANTAYANA

*On dit bien que l'expérience parle par la bouche des hommes d'âge; mais la meilleure expérience qu'ils puissent nous apporter est celle de leur jeunesse sauvée.*  
ALAIN.

NEW YORK  
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS  
1936

AMERICAN GUIDE SERIES

## MASSACHUSETTS

A GUIDE TO ITS PLACES AND PEOPLE

*Written and compiled by the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration for the State of Massachusetts*

FREDERIC W. OJOK, SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, COOPERATING SPONSOR

Illustrated



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY - BOSTON

*The Riverside Press Cambridge*

1937

7



## *THE LAST HURRAH*

By  
EDWIN O'CONNOR.



*An Atlantic Monthly Press Book*  
Little, Brown and Company . Boston, Toronto





*Contrasts:  
The Past, The Present, and  
Six Boston Writers*

## Anne Bradstreet

(1612-1672)

## Anne Sexton

(1928-1974)

In 1630 when Anne Bradstreet (Fig. 1) left England with the first settlers of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, she was eighteen, two years married to Simon Bradstreet. The howling wilderness made a strong contrast to the elegant estate of the Earl of Lincolnshire where she spent her youth. Years later she wrote of her experience:

*I found a new world and new manners, at  
which my heart rose. But after I was con-  
vinced it was the way of God, I submitted  
to it and joined to the church at Boston.*

For Anne Sexton (Fig. 2), the voyage to the wilderness was a spiritual one. Her images of disorder and death were part of her psychic landscape. As the passage from Arthur Schopenhauer quoted in her first volume of poetry suggests, she identified with Oedipus's persistent search for truth. She saw her role as poet/philosopher to confront the most threatening forces within herself:

*but I am rowing, I am rowing  
though the wind pushes me back  
and I know that that island will not be  
perfect,*

*it will have the flaws of life,  
the absurdities of the dinner table,  
but there will be a door  
and I will open it  
and I will get rid of the rat inside me . . .*

In Puritan New England, woman's sphere was limited to domestic duties. John Winthrop, first governor of the colony, claimed that women who read books were prone to madness, for such affairs were proper to men whose minds were stronger. In the prologue to her first volume of poetry (Fig. 3) Anne defends the female muse:

*I am obnoxious to each carping tongue  
Who says my hand a needle better fits;*

*A poet's pen all scorn I should thus wrong,  
For such despite they cast on female wits:  
If what I do prove well, it won't advance,  
They'll say it's stol'n, or else was by  
chance.*

On the suggestion of her therapist Anne Sexton (Fig. 4) began writing poetry in her late twenties; from this healing experience, she realized her extraordinary gift. Sexton believed that it was within a woman's nature to create, to make order, but as she testifies in "The Black Art" the woman poet may have an almost dangerous excess of creative energy:

*A woman who writes feels too much,  
those trances and portents.*

*As if cycles and children and islands  
weren't enough; as if mourners and  
gossips*

*and vegetables were never enough.  
She thinks she can warn the stars.*

*A writer is essentially a spy . . .*



1



2

THE  
TENTH MUSE  
Lately sprung up in AMERICA  
OR  
Severall Poems, compiled  
with great variety of Wit  
and Learning, full of delight.  
Wherein especially is contained a com-  
pleat discourse and description of  
The Four { Elements,  
Constitutions,  
Ages of Man,  
Seasons of the Year.  
Together with an Exact Epitomic of  
the Four Monarchies, viz.  
The { Assyrian,  
Persian,  
Greecian,  
Roman.  
Also a Dialogue between Old England and  
New, concerning the late troubles.  
With divers other pleasant and serious Poems.  
By a Gentlewoman in those parts.  
Printed at London for Stephen Bowtell at the signe of the  
Bible in Popes Head-Alley. 1650.





For my deare Sonne  
Simon Bradstreet

Parents perpetuate their line  
in their posterity, and their  
manners in their imitation  
Children do naturally rather  
follow the feelings than the ver-  
ties of their predecessors, but I  
am perswaded better things of y  
you once desired me to send some-  
thing for you in writing that  
you might look upon when you  
should see me no more, I could  
think of nothing more fit for you  
nor of more ease to my self then  
these short meditations, which  
ing such as they are I send with  
to you, small legacies are accepted  
by true friends much more, by  
fancy full children, I have avoided  
in evading upon others conception  
because I would leave nothing

5a

but myne owne, though in value  
they fall short of all in this kinde  
yet I presume they will be  
better prized by you for the  
Authors sake. The Lord be esse  
you with grace here and soon  
you with glory hereafter that I  
may meet you with joycing  
at that great day of appear-  
ing, which is the continuall pray-  
er, of

your affectionate  
mother A B  
Nov 20  
1664

5b

With disease, death in childbirth and personal misfortune touching all families, Bradstreet's anxiety over the welfare of her husband and children (Fig. 5) is a recurrent theme in her poems.

Anne Bradstreet's personal lyric poems, published posthumously, reveal the trials of the frontier settlement and the strains of domestic life, even in her ideal marriage of which she wrote, "If ever two were one, then surely we." During the long absences of her husband, Simon (Fig. 6), at the Court in Cambridge, her sense of isolation is acute:

Oh Phoebus, hadst thou but this long  
from thine,  
Restrain'd the beams of thy beloved shine,  
At thy return, if so thou could'st or durst  
Behold a Chaos blacker than the first.  
Tell him here's worse than confused  
matter,  
His little world's a fathom under water. . .

Nearly all of Anne Bradstreet's domestic poems (Fig. 7) deal with some personal tragedy—the death of her three grandchildren, daughter-in-law, mother and father, and the burning of her home. At the end of each of these poems, Anne transcends her loss through her acceptance of the Almighty:

With troubled heart and trembling hand I  
write.  
The heavens have changed to sorrow my  
delight.  
How oft with disappointment have I met,  
When I on fading things my hopes have  
set.

More fool then I to look on that was lent  
As if mine own, when thus impermanent.  
Farewell dear child, thou ne'er shall come  
to me,  
Thou with thy Saviour art in endless bliss.  
("In Memory of My Dear Grandchild  
Anne Bradstreet who Deceased June 20,  
1669, Being Three Years and Seven  
Months old.")

Much of Anne Sexton's poetry about married life reveals the painful experi-

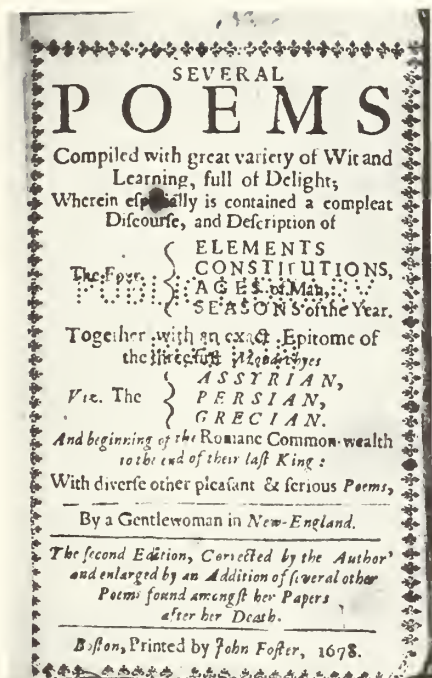
ences and tensions between husband and wife. In her volume of twisted fairy-tales, *Transformations* (Fig. 8), she probes the dark side of domesticity.

Sexton's epilogue to *Cinderella* (Fig. 9) seizes on the lack of authenticity in the happy-ever-after ending:  
*Cinderella and the Prince*  
lived, they say happily ever after . . .  
never telling the same story twice,  
never getting a middle-aged spread  
Their darling smiles pasted on for eternity  
Regular Bobbsy Twins . . .

In Sexton's poems to her own children (Fig. 10), she celebrates her womanhood and embraces the mystical bond between mother and daughter. "Lovely Girl, My String Bean, My Lovely Woman," is written for her daughter Linda:  
What I want to say, Linda,  
is that women are born twice . . .  
if I could have seen through my magical  
transparent belly,  
There would have been such ripening  
within. . .  
What I want to say, Linda,  
is that there is nothing in our body  
that lies,  
All that is new is telling the truth. . .



6



7



9

## TRANSFORMATIONS ANNE SEXTON

WINNER OF  
THE PULITZER PRIZE  
FOR POETRY

WITH A PREFACE BY KURT VONNEGUT, JR.



8

## LIVE OR DIE ANNE SEXTON



detail from *Gothic Heads*  
by Barbara Smith

10

In the last years of her life, Anne Bradstreet's body was wasted by a disease her son describes as consumption; she longingly looks as a weary pilgrim toward heaven:

*A pilgrim I, on earth, perplex  
with sinns with cares and sorrows vex  
By age and paines brought to decay  
and my Clay house mouldring away  
Oh how I long to be at rest  
and soare on high among the blest.*

Anne Sexton's images of death (Fig. 11), like the ice-blue baby rocking, often portray death as gentle, as a release from chaos. After several encounters with that actor with many masks, death, Sexton met him for the last time on October 4, 1974:

*To thrust all that life under your  
tongue!—  
that, all by itself, becomes a passion.  
Death's a sad bone; bruised, you'd say,  
and yet she waits for me, year after year,  
to so delicately undo an old wound,  
to empty my breath from its bad prison.*







1

## Nathaniel Hawthorne

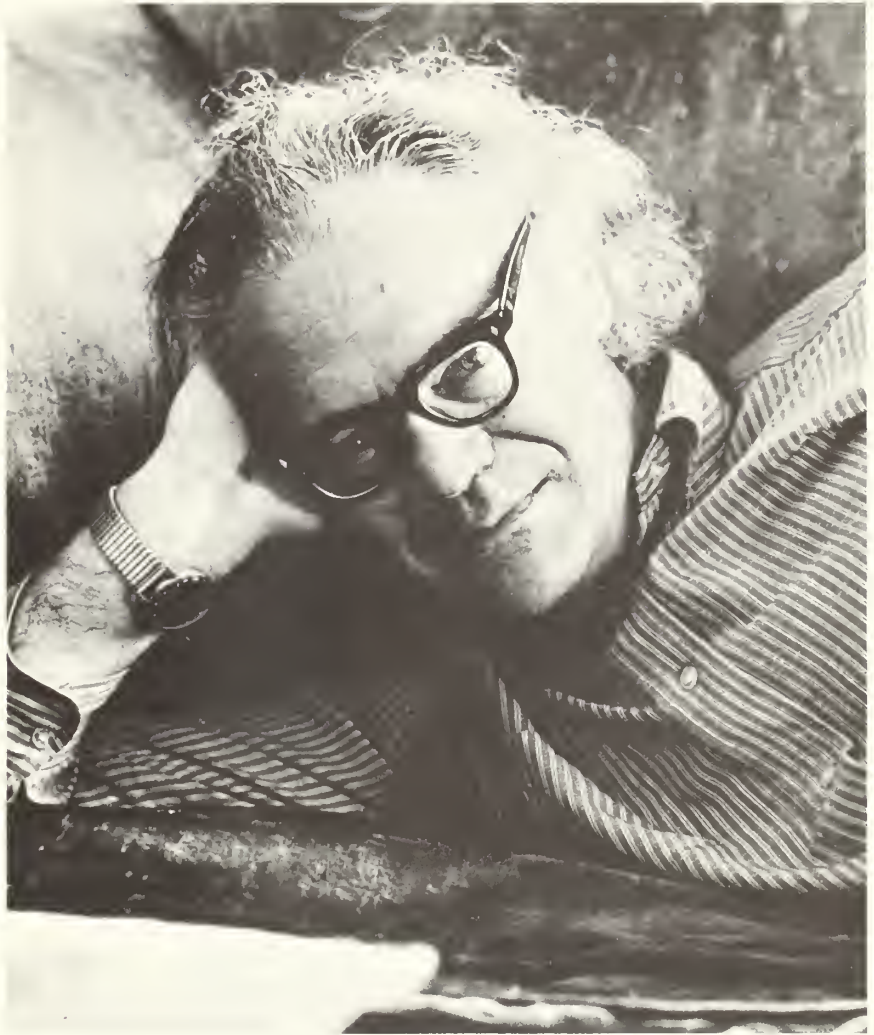
(1804-1864)

## Robert Lowell

(1917- )

Nathaniel Hawthorne (Fig. 1) carried the past with him as a burden. He was aware of his New England roots and he felt in some way that he had to atone for the sins of his witch hunting ancestors. For him the flow of history was channeled into an intensely personal expression by the compression and funneling of his own work. The speaker in his romances is often very close to the author. Hawthorne mined the contents of his notebooks to construct his fictions.

Like Hawthorne, Robert Lowell (Fig. 2) is consciously aware of his New England heritage and carries the burden of the past within him. The sin to be atoned for is no longer ancestral perhaps, but personal. But like Hawthorne before him, he sees history flowing through and into his work. The speaker in Lowells' poetry is nearly always close to being the author himself. *His* notebooks become literally his work— one of his best books is entitled simply *Notebook*.



2

# SCARLET LETTER

A ROMANCE.

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE

BOSTON:  
PICKNOR, REED, AND FIELDS  
1850.

3



4



5

Hawthorne's masterpiece, *The Scarlet Letter* (1850), (Fig. 3) moves from the dreary reality of nineteenth-century Salem's customhouse to the interplay of light and shadow, of good and evil, in Puritan Boston of the 1600's. The ambiguities of light and shadow, of civilization and wilderness, are nowhere better exemplified than in the famous passage where the lovers, Arthur Dimmesdale and Hester Prynne, steal away from the town and meet in the forest:

*And, as if the gloom of the earth and sky had been but the effluence of these two mortal hearts, it vanished with their sorrow. All at once, as with a sudden smile of heaven, forth burst the sunshine, pouring a very flood into the obscure forest . . . The objects that had made a shadow hitherto, embodied the brightness now . . . Such was the sympathy of Nature.*

One of Lowell's finest poems, "For the Union Dead," moves back and forth in time from the Puritan days to the late 1950's. The selfless devotion of Robert Gould Shaw, the white aristocrat, and his black troops (Fig. 4) is contrasted to the crass mindlessness of urban growth: *Two months after marching through*

*Boston*  
*half the regiment was dead;*  
*at the dedication,*  
*William James could almost hear the*  
*bronze Negroes breathe.*  
*Their monument sticks like a fishbone*  
*in the city's throat.*

The romance which the house of the seven gables (Fig. 5) inspired deals with the curse of the past and the question of appearance versus reality. In the following passage we are made to wonder just who is speaking and what the "curse" can possibly mean:

*There is a tradition, only worth alluding to as lending a tinge of superstitious awe to a scene perhaps gloomy enough without it, that a voice spoke loudly among the guests, the tones of which were*

*like old Matthew Maule, the executed wizard—"God hath given him blood to drink!"*

The house at 91 Revere Street on Beacon Hill (Fig. 6) where Lowell grew up represents a kind of accursed past for him as he describes it in *Life Studies*:

*My mother felt a horrified giddiness about the adventure of our address. She once said, "We are barely perched on the outer rim of the hub of decency." We were less than fifty yards from Louisburg Square, the cynosure of old historic Boston's plainspoken, cold roast elite—the hub of the hub of the universe. Fifty yards!*

Hawthorne had a brief moment of socially concerned activity. For a short while he lived in the experimental community of Brook Farm (Fig. 7) in West Roxbury. For such a spiritual being as Hawthorne, the daily confrontation with crude farm chores was too much to bear: *Intellectual activity is incompatible with any large amount of bodily exercise. The yeoman and the scholar . . . are two distinct individuals, and can never be melted or welded into one substance.—* *The Blithedale Romance* (1852)

Lowell too has had moments of socially concerned activity, as in the 1967 March on the Pentagon (Fig. 8). Yet, like Hawthorne, he remains a vastly private person:

*Lovely to lock arms, to march absurdly*  
*locked*

*then to step off like green Union Army recruits*  
*for the first Bull Run, sped by photographers,*  
*the notables, the girls . . . fear, glory,*  
*chaos, rout . . .*  
*"The March I" (1971)*



6



7



8

Fred W. McDarrah, photograph





9



10

with am Shughton. John Richards  
 Peter Sergeant Sam Sewall  
 Nath. Saltensall John Hathorne  
 Warr Wintrop Tho. Newton  
 Bartho Doney Jonathan Corwin

11

Hawthorne was fascinated by witchcraft (Fig. 9) and the external manifestation of inner evil. Such famous stories as "Young Goodman Brown," "The Minister's Black Veil," and "The Birthmark" testify to this.

Inspired by Hawthorne's short story, Lowell created a drama of "My Kinsman Major Molineux" (Fig. 10) which explores in such surreal dialogue as the following the theme of appearance and reality and the question of evil:

FERRYMAN—  
 No one returns  
 ROBIN—  
 No one?  
 FERRYMAN—  
 No one.  
 Legs go round in circles here.  
 This is the city of the dead.  
 ROBIN—  
 What's that?  
 FERRYMAN—  
 I said this city's Boston,  
 No one begs here. Are you deaf?

Hawthorne's remote ancestor, John Hathorne (Fig. 11), was a judge in the Salem witchcraft trials of 1692. His grandfather, David Hathorne, had been a Captain in the Continental Navy and a hero of the Revolution. Hawthorne was aware of the imposing figures in his family's past and perhaps in an attempt to separate himself from these ancestors he added the "w" to the family name.

Among others, the poets James Russell Lowell (Fig. 12) and Amy Lowell (Fig. 13) are present in Robert Lowell's family tree. The ancient New England family of Winslow also appears in his lineage and his writing.

From Boston Common in the 1840's Hawthorne could still look out into the country (Fig. 14). No high-rise skyline yet impeded the view:

*I went round and across the Common,  
 and stood on the highest point of it,  
 whence I could see miles and miles into*

*the country. Blessed be God for this green tract, and the view which it affords. . . . — Notebooks (1840)*

The same Boston Common that Lowell saw gouged for an underground garage in "For the Union Dead" is ringed with high-rise buildings now (Fig. 15). The only view of the "country" available is the formal preservation of the Public Garden.



12



13



14



15





1



2

## W. E. B. DuBois

(1868-1963)

## Malcolm X

(1925-1965)

W. E. B. DuBois (Fig. 1) was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, a small community with neither great wealth nor extreme poverty. In the nearly all-white public schools he experienced little racial prejudice. Both his teachers and principal recognized his academic excellence and encouraged him:

*My school principal, Frank Hosmer, had recommended my high school course. . . . He suggested, quite as a matter of course, that I ought to take the college preparatory course which involved algebra, geometry, Latin and Greek. If Hosmer had been another sort of man, with*

*definite ideas as to a Negro's "place," and had recommended agriculture or domestic economy, I would doubtless have followed his advice. . . .*

In the eighth grade in Mason, Michigan, Malcolm Little (Fig. 2) was the only nonwhite student in his class; he was popular—the class president—and one of the best students in the school. But one day his teacher asked him if he had been thinking about a career. Malcolm said yes, he'd like to be a lawyer. The answer stayed with Malcolm all his life: *A lawyer—that's no realistic goal for a nigger. You need to think about something you can be. You're good with your hands . . . why don't you plan on carpentry?*

DuBois came to Harvard after spending four years at Fisk University in Nashville (Fig. 3), where Southern attitudes towards blacks made an indelible impression. While he immersed himself in the academic activities at Harvard under the brilliant faculty of William James, George Santayana, Josiah Royce, Albert Bushnell Hart, he purposefully kept himself apart from Harvard social life, a "voluntary segregation":

*A colored person in Boston was more neighbor to a colored person in Chicago than to the white person across the street.*

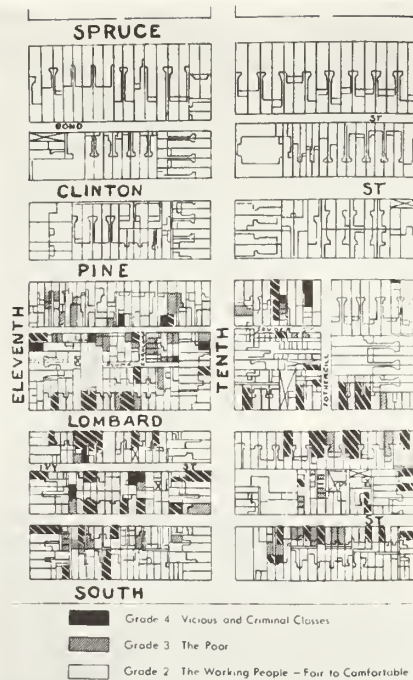
*[At Harvard] I was repeatedly a guest in the home of William James (Fig. 4); he was my friend and guide to clear thinking.*

After receiving his A.M. from Harvard, DuBois, went on to Germany to study for two years. Upon returning to the United States, he took his Ph.D. from Harvard and was determined to employ sociological method on the study of his people. In 1899 he produced *The Philadelphia Negro*, the first sociological analysis of a black community (Fig. 5). Later as Professor of Sociology at Atlanta University, DuBois launched the Atlanta Conference, an ongoing forum for the scientific study of race in America.

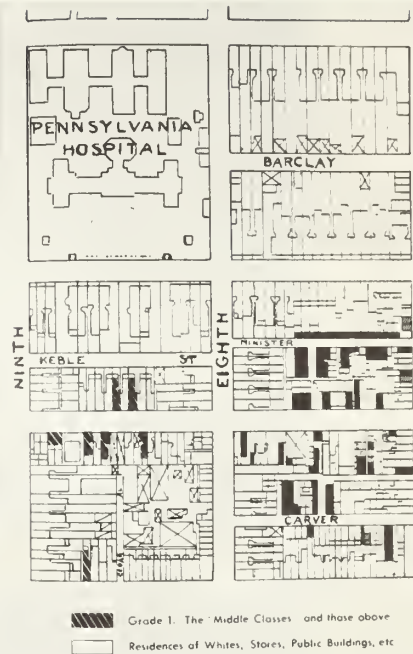




3



5



4



At fifteen Malcolm came to Boston to live (Fig. 6), on Roxbury's Waumbeck Street. Here was a new world:

*I spent my first month in town with my mouth hanging open. The sharp-dressed young "cats" who hung on the corners and in the poolrooms, bars and restaurants, and who obviously didn't work anywhere, completely entranced me.*

From Boston, Malcolm X went to Harlem, the black capital. In four years there he tried every hustle: numbers, selling dope, robbery. Finally, under pressure from rivals, he returned to Boston in 1945, and organized a burglary gang which operated from an apartment in Harvard Square (Fig. 7). He was soon arrested and sentenced to ten years in prison.

At Norfolk prison, Malcolm X took advantage of the large library there, with its many volumes on history and religion, left by Lewis Parkhurst (Fig. 8), a philanthropist and prison reformer. He soon found that his reading was hampered by his limited vocabulary. To overcome this hurdle, Malcolm copied the entire dictionary by hand:

*No university would ask any student to devour literature as I did when this new world opened up to me, of being able to read and understand . . . Souls of Black*



THE  
**Souls of Black Folk**

*Essays and Sketches*

BY  
W. E. BURGHARDT DU BOIS



CHICAGO  
A. C. MCCLURG & CO.  
1903



10



11

9

*Folk by W. E. B. DuBois (Fig. 9) gave me a glimpse into the black people's history before they came to this country.*

As lynchings in the South increased and blacks were deprived of the civil rights they had obtained during Reconstruction, DuBois left academia and began openly to criticize Booker T. Washington's stance of accommodation. In the Niagara movement, and later as editor of the *Crisis* (Fig. 10), the official paper of the NAACP, DuBois attacked Washington for claiming that the condition of blacks was due to their lack of effort. He urged blacks to stand up for their rights.

When he left the Massachusetts Prisons in 1952, Malcolm's life had completely changed. He devoted himself to the Muslim religion under the spiritual leadership of Elijah Muhammad. In time he became recognized as one of the most important spokesmen for the black people of America. Now when he returned to Boston in 1962, it was to speak at the Harvard Law School (Fig. 11):

*I was the invited speaker at the Harvard Law School Forum. I happened to glance through a window. Abruptly, I realized that I was looking in the direction of the apartment house that was my old burglary gang's hideout . . . Scenes from my once depraved life flashed through my mind.*







13

DuBois became a leader in Pan-Africanism (Fig. 12) and expanded his race-consciousness to include the plight of all nonwhite peoples:

*As I face Africa, I ask myself; what is it between us that constitutes a tie that I can feel better than I can explain? . . . The real essence of the kinship is its social heritage of slavery, "the discrimination and insult" and this heritage binds together not simply the children of Africa, but extends through yellow Asia, and into the South Seas. It is this unity that draws me to Africa.*

DuBois died in Africa where he and his wife settled in his last years.

In 1964, Malcolm X broke with the leadership of Elijah Muhammad; with many others who followed him he began to establish in New York a more socially active Muslim group. To prepare himself for the work ahead, he embarked on the *hajj*, the pilgrimage to Mecca (Fig. 13). What he saw and learned on that journey opened his eyes to the relationships between the black struggle in America and the aspirations of the world's peoples. In Ghana, where he was greeted with great enthusiasm, he met and visited Mrs. DuBois (Fig. 14). Shortly after his return to America, he was assassinated in New York, while speaking to a meeting of his new organization.



14





## Appendix: Literary Boston Lectures and Readings

During the period from April 1975 through December 1976 the following humanists and writers participated in the Literary Boston series:

1975

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| April 16    | Archibald MacLeish, Official Opening   |
| May 14      | Lyman Butterfield, Daniel Aaron, "The Articulate Adams Family"   |
| June 1      | David McCord, poetry reading   |
| June 4      | Edward Weeks, Richard McDonough, Ellen Ballou, * Publishing in Boston; a discussion. *Paper read by Edward Weeks                   |
| July 9      | Martin Green, "The Literary Establishment in nineteenth-century Boston and Its Opposition"   |
| August 6    | Robert Francis, Peter Davison, Donald Junkins, poetry reading  |
| September 3 | Howard Mumford Jones, * Reading from <i>The Many Voices of Boston A Historical Anthology 1630-1975</i> . *Reading by Peter Davison |
| October 1   | Dan Wakefield, Maxine Kumin, Tom McHale, Novels and novel-writing; discussion  |
| November 5  | Millicent Bell, Henry James; lecture   |
| December 3  | Robert Fitzgerald, Richard Wilbur, Arthur Freeman, poetry reading  |

1976

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| January 7   | Leo Marx, Phyllis Cole, Emerson and Thoreau; discussion   |
| February 4  | Justin Kaplan, Walt Whitman; lecture  |
| February 18 | Howard Vincent, Melville and Thoreau; lecture   |
| March 3     | Elliot Norton, Theatre in Boston; lecture   |
| April 7     | L. E. Sissman*, Anne Hussey, Barry Spacks, poetry reading<br>*Reading by Anne Bernays           |
| May 5       | Richard Sewall, Emily Dickinson; lecture  |
| June 2      | John Seelye, "Boston Travellers"  |
| July 7      | John Malcolm Brinnin, reading from his poems with comments on twentieth-century poets in Boston |
| August 14   | George Starbuck, Jane Shore, poetry reading   |
| September 8 | Alan Lechuk, Richard Todd, Ivan Gold, Tim O'Brien, Novels and novel-writing; discussion         |
| October 6   | Sam Cornish, Alan Dugan, Ruth Whitman, poetry reading   |
| November 3  | Sacvan Bercovitch, The Puritan Tradition; talk  |
| December 1  | Denise Levertov, Kathleen Spivack, Marge Piercy, poetry reading                                 |

p. 13, no. 3, *The Selling of Joseph*. George M. Cushing, copy photograph. Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society

p. 32, no. 2, Fields, Hawthorne, and Ticknor. Paul M. Wright, copy photograph

p. 33, no. 4, Annie (Adams) Fields. Paul M. Wright, copy photograph

p. 34, no. 7, *North American Review*. Paul M. Wright, copy photograph

p. 37, no. 5, Brook Farm. George M. Cushing, copy photograph. Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society

p. 47, no. 4, Transparent Eyeball. From *Christopher Pearse Cranch*, by F. DeWolfe Miller

p. 48, no. 6, Thoreau. Courtesy of the Thoreau Society and Walter Harding

p. 49, no. 9, Engraving by Winslow Homer

p. 55, no. 10, Richard Henry Dana, Jr. Paul M. Wright, copy photograph. Courtesy of the Longfellow National Historic Site

p. 60, no. 4, *The Fashionable Letter Writer*. From the collection of Lynn Weiner

p. 70, no. 1, Henry Adams. Marion (Hooper) Adams, photograph. George M. Cushing, copy photograph. Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society

p. 71, no. 3, William James. Paul M. Wright, copy photograph

p. 74, no. 4, Robert Woods *et al.* Courtesy of United South End Settlements

p. 76, no. 2, Sacco-Vanzetti protest. Courtesy of the *Boston Globe*

p. 77, no. 4, Upton Sinclair. Courtesy of United Press International

p. 82, no. 1, Anne Bradstreet. From *Anne*

*Bradstreet: The Tenth Muse*, by Elizabeth Wade White, with permission of St. Botolph's Church, Boston, Lincolnshire, England

p. 82, no. 2, Anne Sexton. Courtesy of Houghton Mifflin

p. 83, no. 4, Anne Sexton. Courtesy of Barbara Swan, private collection.

p. 85, no. 8, *Transformations*. Courtesy of Houghton Mifflin

p. 85, no. 9, Cinderella. Courtesy of Barbara Swan, private collection

p. 85, no. 10, *Live or Die*. Courtesy of Houghton Mifflin

p. 86, no. 11, Anne Sexton. Portrait by Barbara Swan

p. 87, no. 2, Robert Lowell. Courtesy of Farrar, Straus, and Giroux

p. 88, no. 4, Monument to 54th Massachusetts. Paul M. Wright, photograph

p. 89, no. 6, 91 Revere St. Paul M. Wright, photograph

p. 89, no. 7, Brook Farm. George M. Cushing, copy photograph. Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society

p. 89, no. 8, March on the Pentagon. Fred W. McDarrah, photograph

p. 90, no. 10, "My Kinsman, Major Molineux." Courtesy of Farrar, Straus, and Giroux

p. 91, no. 15, Boston Common. Paul M. Wright, photograph

p. 92, no. 1, W. E. B. DuBois. Courtesy of the University of Massachusetts Press

p. 92, no. 2, Malcolm X. Courtesy of Grove Press

p. 93, no. 3, W. E. B. DuBois. Courtesy of the University of Massachusetts Press

p. 93, no. 4, William James. Paul M. Wright, copy photograph

p. 93, no. 5, *Philadelphia Negro*. Paul M. Wright, copy photograph

p. 94, no. 6, Malcolm X. Courtesy of Grove Press

p. 94, no. 7, Harvard Square. Courtesy of the Cambridge Historical Commission

p. 95, no. 9, *Souls of Black Folk*. Paul M. Wright, copy photograph

p. 95, no. 10, DuBois and *Crisis*. Courtesy of the University of Massachusetts Press

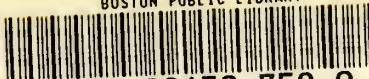
p. 95, no. 11, Malcolm X at Harvard. Courtesy of Grove Press

p. 96, no. 12, DuBois and Pan-Africanism. Courtesy of the University of Massachusetts Press

p. 97, no. 13, Malcolm X in Mecca. Courtesy of Grove Press

p. 97, no. 14, Malcolm X and Mrs. DuBois. Courtesy of Grove Press

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